

THE TIMES Tomorrow

Star...
The Times Profile: Bettino Craxi, the man most likely to be Italy's next prime minister

...witness
A Euro-MP seeks witnesses to the murder in Greece 12 years ago of Ann Chapman

Sticks...
Jenny MacArthur previews the European showjumping championships

...and stones...
Glyn Daniel reviews Christopher Chippindale's new book on Stonehenge

...and cracks
At the height of the holiday rush, Michael Bailey looks at the state of Britain's crumbling motorways in a two-part series

Airlines win Laker tussle

British Airways and British Caledonian have been granted an injunction in the Court of Appeal which will prevent the civil action brought against them by Laker liquidators for £1,000m damages from proceeding in US courts

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Adams outburst at Commons

Mr Gerry Adams, the Provisional Sinn Féin MP, said at the Commons that he would not take his seat in a "foreign parliament"

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FINANCIAL TIMES

Leaders of the National Graphical Association will ask the TUC to make a fresh intervention in the Financial Times dispute, rather than discipline the union

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Gulf access

Washington is determined to maintain freedom of navigation in the Gulf despite Iran's threat to close it to oil shipments, a State Department spokesman said

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Can we afford this kind of success?

Calvin

Actor cleared

Mr Peter Adamson, the *Coronation Street* actor, was acquitted at Burnley Crown Court of indecently assaulting two girls aged eight at a swimming pool. The jury reached its verdict in 36 minutes

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Piggott's treble

Lester Piggott rode three winners at Goodwood, with Autumn Sunset, ridden by Willie Carson, winning the main race of the day, the Stewards Cup

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Stock prices

The Times daily listings of Stock Exchange, unit trusts and Wall Street prices have been suspended because of a computer fault. We apologize for the temporary omission of these listings.

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Leading articles: Parents and the Pill; London Transport; Cuba
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The TUC and the Financial Times dispute: China woos the Dalai Lama; James Curran on the Tory militants; Spectrum: Aids is here. Wednesday page: Saving London's skyline; Joanna Lumley's Diary; The Times Cook
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Government acts to take over London Transport

By Michael Bailey, Transport Editor

London's bus and Underground services could be offered for sale to private investors within two years, and British Rail's South-east commuter trains could follow within five.

A White Paper on public transport in London, published yesterday, proposes that London Transport should be taken away from the Greater London Council next year and put under a small holding company, answerable directly to the Government.

Buses and Tubes would be put in separate companies under the London Regional Transport (LRT) holding company, which would propose fare and subsidy levels to the Government and disperse grants to the subsidiaries.

There would also be a liaison committee with British Rail, aimed at better interchanges, more through-ticketing and avoidance of duplication.

The possibility of "eventually" extending its responsibilities to include British Rail's commuter services is covered with reserve powers to be taken by the Government. LRT would then have power to provide financial support for investment in and operation of the services in and around London provided by British Rail.

The bus and Tube companies could be further split into smaller concerns, any of which could be sold at the LRT's discretion, with the Secretary of State's consent. Independent subsidiaries could be established either in partnership with LRT companies or in competition.

New financial arrangements are to be worked out in consultation with local authorities in London and the home counties over the next few months so that Londoners' contributions to transport subsidies may be made through deductions from the Government's rate support grant.

Mr Tom King, Secretary of State for Transport, expects legislation to be ready in November and enacted by July, with the LRT established soon after.

Mr King's proposals go directly against the recommendation of the all-party Commons transport committee which recommended last year that London Transport should be run by a new metropolitan transport authority with representatives from local authorities in the Greater London area.

The Government feels that with fifty local authorities in London and its commuter hinterland that would be too unwieldy a body to provide an effective service. But Government sources emphasized yesterday that London was regarded

as unique and the measures proposed in the White Paper would not necessarily apply to big provincial areas.

Under the proposals, the Secretary of State would have the power to appoint the chairman and members (probably businessmen) of the LRT and would set its subsidy levels. The Government intends that London MPs should help to monitor the behaviour of the LRT and its services.

The White Paper is not specific on finance. As with British Rail, grants will come directly from the Secretary of State, and will replace the present system under which the GLC precepts London boroughs for ratepayers' contribution towards the cost of London Transport.

The White Paper says the Government accepts that the case for change in London Transport is compelling. "It believes new arrangements are needed to secure a cost-effective delivery of services from both the public and private sector."

Grants to London Transport have risen from £6.5m to £370m between 1970 and 1982; services have dropped by a half on the Tubes, and two-thirds on the buses, and fares have doubled, the White Paper says. Subsidies now total £650m a year.

Mr David Wetzel, the GLC transport chairman, described the proposals last night as "nonsense", a "negation of democracy", and "another nail in the coffin of transport integration in London."

Parliament, page 4
Leading article, page 11

Mother loses action on pill for children

By Pat Healy, Social Services Correspondent

A mother of 10 children, five of them girls, yesterday lost her High Court action to prevent doctors from prescribing the contraceptive pill to girls under 16 without their parents' knowledge or consent.

However, the decision will not end the two-and-a-half year campaign by Mrs Victoria Gillick to have a Department of Health and Social Security circular on the issue ruled illegal.

Mrs Valerie Riches, secretary of the Responsible Society, an organization which aims to prevent exploitation of the young, said that a writ would be issued against the Attorney General as soon as the judgment had been studied.

It was ridiculous, she said, that parents were held legally responsible for fines incurred when their under age children committed criminal offences, but were not to be told when their children were subject to illegal acts that could have horrifying consequences.

Mrs Gillick, aged 36, of Old Market, Wisbech, Cambridgeshire, had sought a court declaration that her daughters would not be given contraceptive advice or supplies without her prior knowledge or consent. She claimed that the circular encouraged doctors to put girls

on the pill and deprived parents of the right to look after the welfare of their children.

Mr Gerard Wright, QC, acting for her, had argued that doctors could be committing a criminal offence by aiding and abetting unlawful sexual intercourse.

But Mr Justice Woolf said that prescribing the pill was a palliative against the consequences of a crime, rather than an instrument for crime itself.

"I accept that a doctor who is misguided enough to provide a girl under 16 or a man with advice and assistance with regard to contraception with the intention thereby of encouraging them to have sexual intercourse is an accessory before the fact to an offence," the judge said.

"However, I assume this will not usually be the attitude of the doctor. There will certainly be some cases, and I hope the majority, where the doctor decides to give advice and prescribe contraceptives despite the fact that he was firmly against unlawful sexual intercourse taking place, but he felt nevertheless that he had to do so, intercourse would in fact take place."

Law Report, page 4
Leading article, page 11

British Gas doubles its profits

By Jonathan Davis, Energy Correspondent

Domestic gas prices could rise by 4 to 5 per cent in the autumn, despite yesterday's announcement of record £665m in profits by the British Gas Corporation.

The corporation's profit was more than double the previous year's figure of £311m, and means that it has outstripped British Telecom to become the largest single profitmaking industry in the public sector.

But while the corporation announced yesterday that industrial gas prices would be frozen for a further three months until the end of the year, it was unable to give any guarantee that domestic users would not face an increase.

Sir Denis Rooke, the chairman, said that final decisions would not be taken until the Government announced the corporation's financial target for this year. This announcement is several months overdue.

British Gas is understood however to be working on the basis of a price increase in October in line with the rate of inflation. This would be between 4 and 5 per cent.

The National Gas Consumers' Council immediately issued a statement saying that it would fight any attempt to increase domestic tariffs, in view of the dramatic profits increase.

The spectacular jump in profits was achieved despite a 2 per cent drop in gas sales, and the payment of £470m to the Government in the form of the recently introduced gas levy. The accounts were prepared on a current cost (inflation-adjusted) basis. On the conventional historic cost basis the profit would have been £1,034m.

British Gas attributed the profits rise to its success in keeping down costs, and the effect of the Government's three-year programme to raise gas prices annually by 10 per cent more than the inflation rate. This has now ended.

City Editor, page 17
Hands off, page 19



Arab students die in West Bank massacre

From Christopher Walker, Hebron

Three Palestinian students were killed here yesterday and 33 others wounded, some seriously, when four masked men drove up to the crowded Arab university and launched a random gun and grenade attack. Despite their Arabic headgear, the gunmen are widely suspected of having been extremist Jewish settlers.

The gravity of the incident was demonstrated by the decision of Lieutenant-General Moshe Levy, the new Israeli Chief of Staff, to fly to the scene by helicopter before reporting personally to Mr Menachem Begin, the Prime Minister. A new security crisis has been posed for the Israelis, who immediately ordered a special alert for all troops in the occupied territories.

Within hours, a young Palestinian girl was killed and another wounded when soldiers broke up an anti-Israeli demonstration in Nablus called in protest at events in Hebron. Israel Radio reported that the girl was killed by shots fired by Israeli soldiers after stones were thrown.

The attack was seen by many as revenge for the murder earlier this month of an 18-year-old Jewish religious student stabbed about two miles away.

Two students who escaped described to me the horror of a courtyard lined with bleeding bodies and echoing to the screams of the wounded after at least four minutes of automatic gunfire.

Mr Abraham Jamil, aged 18, a language student from Gaza, was fleeing from Hebron when I met him at the roadside shortly before the curfew. "I am trying to get home, I am afraid that the whole city will explode, there is so much anger at what was done. It was like a massacre," he said.

At that point, two other Arabs pulled up. Seeing that I was a reporter, the driver shouted in broken English: "Put this down in your book. It is the Israelis who are the terrorists now - not the Palestinians."

Another student, a 22-year-old girl from Halbut, said: "There was smoke and noise everywhere. It was impossible to see the faces of the attackers because they were completely covered and some also wore dark glasses."

Rebels fought off, page 6

Marriage of princess recognized

By Robert Nowell

The Holy See has agreed to recognize the marriage of Prince and Princess Michael of Kent (above) for which it refused a dispensation in 1978 after which they were married in a civil ceremony in Vienna.

The Pope gave his sanction yesterday to a service of validation at which the couple will renew vows and have their marriage blessed by the Roman Catholic Church.

Archbishop Bruno Heim, the apostolic pro-nuncio to the United Kingdom, will officiate at the service, a time and place for which have yet to be fixed. In 1978, the Baroness Marie-Christine von Reibnitz, whose 1971 marriage to Mr Thomas Troubridge, a merchant banker, was dissolved in 1977 and annulled by the Roman Catholic Church's marriage tribunals in 1978, applied for a dispensation for her marriage to Prince Michael of Kent.

It was understood then that Pope Paul VI refused his permission because of Prince Michael's stated intention to have any children brought up as members of the Church of England, as has happened.

They also claim another atrocity in which schoolboys were shot and killed by troops and police in the same area. They blame these incidents for prompting the attack by Tamil guerrillas on a Sri Lankan Army vehicle on Saturday, in which 13 soldiers were killed.

The attack, by young separatists calling themselves the Tamil Tigers, has been cited by official sources as the cause of a Sinhalese backlash against the Tamils.

Until yesterday the curfew only applied to the capital and three other areas where rioting has occurred. The blanket curfew is intended to impede movement by rioting gangs from one district to another.

Island of terror, page 6

Overseas trade improves

By Frances Williams, Economics Correspondent

A sharp improvement in Britain's overseas trade performance last month has helped to allay fears in government and City circles that Britain would plunge into the red this year for the first time since 1979.

Increased exports and lower imports transformed a £552m deficit on trade in goods in May into a £123m surplus in June. After adding an estimated £250m surplus on trade in invisibles, that is services such as insurance, banking and shipping, Britain ran a £373m current account surplus last month after a £302m deficit in May.

But it still looks highly unlikely that the Treasury's budget forecast for a £1,500m current account surplus in 1983 will be met. The surplus for the first six months of the year was only £406m and, until last month at least, Britain's trade performance has been steadily worsening.

Export growth has remained

Continued on back page, col 6

US steps up warnings about Cuba

From Christopher Thomas, Washington

President Reagan was due to appear on nationwide television last night to try to convince Americans that he is not taking the United States towards another Vietnam by sharply increasing US military involvement in Central America.

Even so, senior Administration officials continued to use the bellicose language that in recent weeks has reached rhetoric proportions in warning of the dangers of Cuban and Russian influence on the American mainland.

More precise details of the planned extensive military operations due in Honduras between August and January emerged but it became increasingly apparent that the chiefs of staff are in something of a turmoil in trying to respond quickly to the White House.

In choosing Central America as the main theme of his press conference, Mr Reagan hoped to put the increasing militarization of American strategy into context with the peace efforts of Mr Richard Stone, his special envoy to the region, and of the presidential commission headed by Dr Henry Kissinger.

Although there is much talk of a naval "quarantine" of Nicaragua - the selective interdiction of shipping that might be carrying Cuban or Russian arms - there is a growing feeling that such a potentially dire action is unlikely, at least in the near future.

Dr Kissinger implicitly expressed that view when he said that he did not expect any irreversible events to occur before his commission reported early next year.

Moscow attack, page 6
Leading article, page 11

37 die in Colombo prison attack

By Henry Stanhope, Diplomatic Correspondent

Up to 37 prisoners have been killed during a fight in Colombo's Welikada jail, making it the worst incident so far in the violence sweeping the country.

The men are all said to be Tamils, convicted or detained under the country's anti-terrorism legislation.

Official confirmation of the deaths came soon after the Government said the night curfew would be extended throughout the island after widespread rioting - described by some sources as the worst for 25 years.

Filars of black smoke hung over the capital after clashes between Sinhalese and the Tamil minority. One unofficial estimate put the number of dead at more than 100. At least 20,000 Tamils are said to have been made homeless or to have fled.

Service chiefs of staff attended a Cabinet meeting called by President Jayewardene.

Reports leaving the capital depicted a largely shut-down city, heavily patrolled by security police on the lookout for rioting gangs and looters.

Hundreds of visitors stayed in their hotels in Colombo on advice from their embassies and high commissions while others waited anxiously at the airport for flights home.

Few flights were coming or going, however. Public transport was at a standstill. Those who had to move out of doors fought for such taxis as were licensed to drive.

Among those who were forced to move were members of the Indian High Commission, who went to hotels after the house of the Deputy High Commissioner was burnt down and one of his staff killed.

Here in Britain some of the 25,000 Sri Lanka Tamils blamed the start of the fighting on an incident last week in which three teenage girls at a bus-stop near Jaffna in the north of Sri Lanka were allegedly abducted and raped by soldiers. One girl was later said to have committed suicide.

They also claim another atrocity in which schoolboys were shot and killed by troops and police in the same area. They blame these incidents for prompting the attack by Tamil guerrillas on a Sri Lankan Army vehicle on Saturday, in which 13 soldiers were killed.

The attack, by young separatists calling themselves the Tamil Tigers, has been cited by official sources as the cause of a Sinhalese backlash against the Tamils.

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Island of terror, page 6

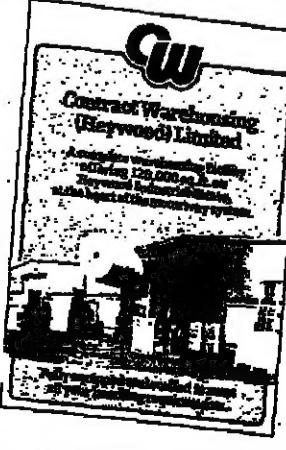
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Commentary

Geoffrey Smith

Nobody will remember the Penrith by-election unless it embarrasses the Government. A little embarrassment may be inevitable. No by-election is as easy as it seems for a governing party immediately after it has won a sweeping victory in a general election. It is harder to get the voters out again for the second time within two months, especially for the party that is not in evident need of further electoral support. Why should they bother? Voters may irritably ask themselves, particularly when the Government has called the by-election by raising Mr William Whitelaw to the Lords?

The fear of allowing another party to slip into office no longer applies now the Conservatives have such a large majority, and there may be a natural instinct to correct the balance by voting for someone else.

The urge to do so might well be particularly strong in the present instance because of the interest that will focus on the performance of the Liberals. Having chosen last month the party best fitted to form the Government, some voters might well feel that they now have the chance to help to decide who should be the most serious opposition.

Chirpy confidence creates impression

It would be very surprising therefore, if the Conservatives won by the kind of massive majority that Mr Whitelaw used to achieve at election after election. His mantle has been passed to a Conservative of a very different stamp. In background, political style, manner and opinion, Mr David Maclean is no carbon copy of Lord Whitelaw. He is very much one of the new Conservatives: sharp, tough-minded, not just hard working but manifestly energetic. But how well will he fit into this rolling rural constituency of few towns and many villages?

It is easy around Penrith not to think of Lord Whitelaw's Scottish antecedents: nobody is likely to forget Mr Maclean's. Will that forever mark him as an outsider, the "visitor from Scotland", as the Liberal candidate, Mr Michael Young, likes to describe him? It is hard to be sure because this is a constituency of reserved and courteous people who would probably feel it impolite to parade such opinions in public. But watching Mr Maclean in action over the past few days, I have not noticed him exhibiting any of those hesitations.

At an auction mart he spoke to farmers with the familiar assurance of a man with a farming background. On the doorstep he occasionally reveals his inexperience, but his chirpy confidence seems to create a good impression. On the platform he is always articulate and sometimes eloquent. He is, in effect, an effective populist. The two questions I have most frequently heard voters raise spontaneously in this campaign are capital punishment and MPs' pay; and Mr Maclean has taken every opportunity to explain that he is of the popular side on both.

Liberals within striking distance

But apart from the inevitable difficulties of a Conservative candidate in such a by-election, Mr Maclean faces a Liberal challenge of rising confidence. Mr Young is a man of easy charm, whose manner is much more in the Whitelaw tradition, dispensing friendly assurance without needing to say too much of substance on the doorstep. If the Liberal canvassing figures are to be believed, he might even be elected. Liberals were claiming yesterday that once they had eliminated those who did not intend to vote or were undecided, the Conservative candidate had the support of 46 per cent of the electorate, the Liberals 42 per cent and Labour 10 per cent. That would certainly put Mr Young within striking distance, but canvassing returns are notoriously unreliable because so many canvassers are more optimistic than rigorous.

If the Liberals were to overturn the Conservative majority of more than 15,000 at the general election it would be a remarkable achievement. If they were to reduce that majority to below 5,000 it would be enough to cause the Government quite a bit of embarrassment and to give the Alliance the shot in the arm it badly needs. A majority of between 5,000 and 10,000 would not be of much national consequence and a majority of 10,000 or more would be a moral triumph for the Government.

Clarke orders checks on GP deputizing services

By Richard Evans

Checks on doctors' deputizing services were ordered yesterday by Mr Kenneth Clarke, the Minister for Health. His instruction, sent out to all family practitioner committees in England, comes after complaints by patients and MPs, and reports alleging serious deficiencies in the widely-used system.

The complaints have included: inefficient organization; inexperienced or inadequately qualified deputies; poor service to patients; and excessive use of deputizing services by individual doctors.

An inquiry is being held into the Southern Relief Service, the largest commercial deputizing firm in Britain, which operates throughout London and the Home Counties.

In the letter to committee chairmen, Mr Clarke said that it was clear from complaints brought to his attention that in some areas the code of practice covering deputizing services "is not being followed as closely as it is intended to be".

He said: "I regard the proper and effective discharge by GPs of the duties and responsibilities laid on them... to be of the utmost importance. A failure to discharge them properly can lead to an unacceptable reduction in the level of patient care."

Mr Clarke has urged all family practitioner committees to ensure that they follow the code of practice and has asked them thoroughly to review their arrangements and to write to him by September with an assurance that "good practice" is being followed.

Commercial services offering deputies to cover for GPs at night and weekends have developed rapidly in recent years and most GPs now use them.

Mr Clarke said that doctors could not work 24 hours a day, seven days a week and they were entitled to make use of a good deputizing service if their partners or local colleagues could not cover for them.

But he disclosed that MPs had told him of constituents who had "very worrying experiences" with doctors from deputizing services. "Recent press reports have highlighted complaints from other parts of the country."

Mr Clarke said: "I hope this 'lightening up' exercise will ensure that doctors do not make excessive use of deputizing services and will ensure the professional competence of deputies and their suitability for the work."

Airlines win latest round in Laker fight

By Michael Bailey, Transport Editor

British Airways and British Caledonian won the latest round of their battle with Laker Airways yesterday when the Court of Appeal granted an injunction preventing the case against them proceeding in the US courts.

That reverses a ruling by Mr Justice Parker in May. But it would be reversed if, as expected, Laker interests take the case to the House of Lords.

But for the present the shadow of a \$1,000,000 damages claim is lifted, on the primary ground, the Master of the Rolls, Sir John Donaldson, made clear in a reserved judgment yesterday, that orders made by the British Government under the Protection of Trading Interests Act since Mr Justice Parker gave judgment had "rendered the issues raised by Laker in the district court action wholly unresolvable as between Laker and the appellants."

To allow Laker to proceed with its claim in these circumstances would amount to a total denial of justice to the appellants.

The judgment refers to the civil case being brought by Laker liquidators and does not affect the criminal grand jury case being brought by the US Dept. of Justice largely on the strength of evidence provided by the civil case. However, the airlines already have a degree of protection against that by the British Government orders requiring them not to collaborate.

Sir John said that it was so far as was known the first occasion on which an English court had prevented further prosecution or proceedings before a foreign court when

there was no alternative forum in England or elsewhere. But he emphasized that it was not suggested that the US court was without jurisdiction, nor was there any criticism of its procedures.

"The days are long past when the English courts and judges thought there was only one way of administering justice and that was the English way," he said. "The two nations were 'cousins-in-law' and there was no hostility on the part of English courts or judges towards the US anti-trust or any other US laws."

But its chairman, Mr John Dent, said yesterday that the operating profit of £48.7m was boosted by £21.5m exchange earnings from aviation charges paid in strong dollars, £10m of which had been repaid to airlines in lower charges. More would follow.

The authority is responsible for fare regulation, air traffic control and safety standards.

British Airways' shuttle service suffered another blow yesterday when British Midland Airways was granted a licence to operate between London and Belfast from October.

British Midland has won a 32 per cent share of the Glasgow and Edinburgh routes in recent months. Its Belfast service will have reserved seats and full meals and be £3.50 cheaper.

Law Report, page 4

Profit after loss

The Civil Aviation Authority made a £13.3m profit in the last financial year, compared with a £8m loss in 1981-82.

The public's overriding concern seems to be to find a cure for cancer, with cancer charities by far the biggest single beneficiary receiving nearly £50m a year compared with less than £5m for mental health.

Animal protection pulls in £25m a year with children's charities only just ahead at £30m. Charities dealing with medicine and health account for 30 per cent of all voluntary contributions compared with only 8 per cent for children's charities.

Charity Statistics reveals for the first time all sources of charities' funding. Company gifts to charity have increased by 7 per cent in real value in spite of a drop in pre-tax profits. Charity Statistics (Charities Aid Foundation, £9).



High honour: The husband and wife acting team of Michael Denison and Dulcie Gray, and a Chinese seaman who rescued eight fellow crewmen from a burning fleet auxiliary in the Falklands war were among those who received the insignia of their awards from the Queen at Buckingham Palace yesterday.

Mr and Mrs Denison had been appointed CBE. Chin Yin Nam, aged 34, who speaks no English, had flown with his mother from Hongkong to receive the George Medal for his action in the Falklands.

Government 'in the dark' on charities

By Lorna Bourke

Taxpayers give charities an estimated £1,200m a year in tax relief and direct grants, yet the Government seems to have little idea how the money is being spent.

"The Government is full of goodwill towards voluntary groups, but we think they are a bit muddled in their attitude towards them," Mr Michael Brophy, director of the Charities Aid Foundation, said.

The foundation published a statistical analysis of charities' income and Mr Brophy said he had been surprised to find how little information was available to ministers and how little discussion took place.

Charities are growing. Mr Brophy said. The latest edition of *Charity Statistics* disclosed that charities' income in 1981-82 was nearly £5,000m - almost 50 per cent higher than the net inflow into National Savings.

Of that, £612, is direct grants from central and local government and £954m is investment income on which no tax is paid. The Inland Revenue estimates that a further £270m in tax relief goes to individuals contributing gifts to charity.

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FT union seeks new TUC intervention

By Our Labour Staff

The TUC will be urged today to make a fresh intervention in the two-month *Financial Times* strike rather than discipline the strikers' union, the National Graphical Association (NGA).

Leading officials of the NGA who have been summoned to appear before the TUC general council to explain their conduct, will argue for a resumption of direct negotiations on a "no commitment" basis.

Mr George Jerrom, the union's national officer responsible for Fleet Street, said last night: "The NGA would welcome the TUC's involvement in persuading FT management to re-enter negotiations with the union at an early stage."

Privately, the NGA has indicated that the TUC's authority should be directed towards reopening negotiations with the company - which the union insists were close to a settlement in discussions under auspices of the Advisory, Conciliation and Arbitration Service (Acas).

The alternative, it is argued, could be a long and potentially damaging conflict within the Labour movement at a time when newspaper managements are seeking substantial job cuts.

London peacemakers

By a Staff Reporter

London's role as a leading international centre for private arbitration of multi-million-pound commercial disputes has increased significantly in recent years, according to a booklet published yesterday.

The booklet, *Arbitration in London*, is described as the first definitive statement of the rules and procedures governing arbitration in London. It is published by the London International Arbitration Trust, formed in 1981 as an umbrella body for arbitration organizations.

The trust estimates that about 50,000 arbitrators are appointed in London each year and 10,000 awards are made, in fields including commodities, shipping and construction. The first international arbitration counsellor was appointed last year.

Among the reasons for the growth in arbitration business in London, according to the trust, is the passage of the Arbitration Act, 1979, which abolished the "special case" procedure under which the courts could intervene significantly in arbitrations.

Although a limited right of appeal to the courts still exists, that is confined to questions of law. In most cases the award of the arbitrators is final and binding, with no appeal possible, the document adds.

Parliament derided by Adams

By John Witherow

Mr Jerry Adams, the Provisional Sinn Féin MP for Belfast West, yesterday derided the House of Commons, saying he would never take up his seat in a "foreign parliament".

The contrast with his last visit to London was stark. Eleven years ago he was part of a republican delegation that held secret talks with the government at a private house in Cheyne Walk, Chelsea. His meetings further down river yesterday with a few Labour MPs, Greater London councillors and Mr Wedgwood Benn, the former Labour MP, could hardly have been more publicized.

Mr Adams, aged 34, a former barrister who was interned during the 1970s, said he had come at the invitation of Mr Ken Livingstone, the GLC leader, to "open up a dialogue with the British Government."

He told a press conference he was trying to "penetrate the wall of disinformation that the British Government had tried to throw up around our country."

He likened the republican struggle in Northern Ireland to "the national day that any Englishman would have felt if invaded by the Nazis", and said Mrs Margaret Thatcher had condoned the right of people to defend themselves against invasion by sending a task force to the Falklands.

"If I was not in Sinn Féin I would find myself in the IRA," he said, although denying he had ever held a senior position in the organization.

Of a total of 209 Labour MPs, those who attended Mr Adams's meeting were Mr Jeremy Corbyn (Islington, North), who arranged the meeting, Mr Bob Clay (Sunderland, North), Miss Clare Short (Birmingham, Ladywood), Mr Ernest Roberts (Hackney, North and Stoke Newington), Mr Harry Cohen (Leyton), and Mr Tony Banks (Newham, North-west).

She goes to Port Stanley as a Foreign Office secretary, but one of her duties will be to present a radio request show. Miss Thackstone, of Devon Road, Salcombe, in Devon, said: "It sounds like a lot of fun."

WRAPPED UP: Tina Thackstone, aged 22, is to be a disc-jockey to the British troops in the Falklands.

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Of a total of 209 Labour MPs, those who attended Mr Adams's meeting were Mr Jeremy Corbyn (Islington, North), who arranged the meeting, Mr Bob Clay (Sunderland, North), Miss Clare Short (Birmingham, Ladywood), Mr Ernest Roberts (Hackney, North and Stoke Newington), Mr Harry Cohen (Leyton), and Mr Tony Banks (Newham, North-west).

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Englishman loses race bias claim

A museum custodian who claimed that he was dismissed from a job in Portmadoc, Wales, last year because he is English and cannot speak Welsh lost his case yesterday that he was a victim of racial discrimination.

Mr Harold Day, chairman of an industrial tribunal in Colwyn Bay said that they accepted the Gwynedd Maritime Museum's case that ability to speak Welsh was desirable, but not a condition of the summer job, which was advertised in English.

He added that Mr Anthony Sweeting, aged 47, from Pwllheli, Gwynedd, had not been promised that he would keep the job in 1982.

However, Mr Sweeting had treated an unfavourable impression with the trustees by laying down improved terms and conditions which he expected.

Penalty against bankrupt Best

Mr George Best, aged 36, the former international footballer, who has admitted that fast cars, alcohol and gambling has caused his downfall, failed to attend a resumed hearing of his public examination at the London Bankruptcy Court yesterday.

Mr Registrar Hunt adjourned the hearing *sine die* saying that no good reason had been shown for his absence. That could mean that Mr Best, whose debts total £115,418, could remain bankrupt for the rest of his life.

Ban on calls to faithful

Birmingham's planners recommended yesterday that an application to use four loudspeakers to call the faithful to the city's central mosque in Balsall Heath should be rejected. Mr Graham Shaylor, the city's planning officer, said the predicted high noise level of 90 decibels at 220 yards would be likely to constitute a nuisance to residents. The social services department also objected.

Disc-jockey for the Falklands

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Sale room Mittens for a royal baby

By Geraldine Norman Sale Room Correspondent

The Manchester City Art Gallery spent £580 (estimate £600 to £800) on a pair of gloves at Christie's, South Kensington, yesterday. They date from the seventeenth century and have silk cuffs embroidered with birds and flowers and "trimmed" with sequins.

Gloves were well represented in the sale of embroidery and costume with a pair of baby's mittens said to have been made for little Princess Charlotte, the Prince Regent's one legitimate daughter, among the most touching items. They are made of pink muslin embroidered with pink silk and the tips with

blue flowers. The sale price was £300 (estimate £100 to £150).

A late seventeenth century single kid glove embroidered in pink silk and silver thread with a trimming of sequins went to Manchester City Art Gallery at £150 (estimate £150 to £250). The Museum of London spent £140 (estimate £40 to £60) on a rare pair of long cotton gloves of around 1800.

The Victoria & Albert Museum invested £35 (estimate £30 to £50) in a pair of late nineteenth century woollen combinations.

The early embroideries were the real money-spinners.

Man shot dead by police after post office raid

From Richard Ford Belfast

A man was shot dead in a gun battle with the police in Northern Ireland yesterday when a patrol surprised two men escaping after a post office robbery.

Anthony O'Hare, aged 25, of Craigavon, co. Armagh, was killed in Lurgan. The police said he had failed to stop when challenged and had fired a sawn-off shotgun at an officer. A mask and a sawn-off shotgun were found near his body.

Mr O'Hare had close links with the Provisional IRA and had been released from jail last year after serving part of an eight-year sentence imposed in 1978 for robbery, arson and hijacking.

Last night a man questioned by the

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سازمان اطلاعات

Jury takes 36 minutes to acquit Adamson of assaulting two girls

Peter Adamson, the *Coronation Street* actor, was cleared yesterday of indecently assaulting two girls aged eight. He said afterwards that he was "relieved that this ordeal is over".

He stood straight ahead and showed no signs of emotion as the jury foreman announced the verdict to a packed Burnley Crown Court after a retirement lasting only 36 minutes.

But outside the court Mr Adamson, aged 53, said: "I am very relieved for my family and myself that this ordeal is over."

"I would also like very much to thank the members of the public who have supported me in their messages and kindness. At this moment I would very much like to get back to the privacy and love of my family," Mr Adamson of old Road, Bury, Greater Manchester, was then bundled into the back of a black Mercedes, accompanied by at least four staff of The Sun newspaper, which has bought his story for a figure estimated at £70,000.

As the car pulled away, dozens of members of the public who had been waiting outside the court were shouting: "Well done, Len," and: "All the best."

But for Mr Adamson, who has starred as Len Fairclough in *Coronation Street* for 20 years, there will be no early return to the series, in which he has not appeared pending or during the trial.

Granada Television, makers

of the series, said: "Coronation Street story lines are written three months in advance, and there is no question of him being in the programme next week. Peter Adamson continues to be under contract to Granada and receiving his contractual fees."

Judge Lockett told the jurors: "I thank you for your attention in this case and the way you have obviously considered it in depth."

"You have during the course of seven working days listened most intently and most carefully to the evidence in this case."

The judge made an order for Mr Adamson's costs and the prosecution's costs to be paid from central funds.

Press and public surged towards the dock after the judge left the court. Mr Adamson's son, Michael, aged 29, held his hands up and motioned the press to keep away from his father who was still in the dock.

Accompanied by Mr George Carman, his defending barrister, Mr Adamson walked through the crowded entrance to the courtroom. He wiped a tear from his cheek, and as the press and public surged forward, he and his lawyers retreated to an anteroom.

Mr Adamson was alleged to have assaulted one girl aged eight at Haslingden swimming baths on April 16 and another on April 23.

The Crown had alleged that Mr Adamson indecently assaulted the two girls by touching them under their swimming costumes.

Two police officers claimed they saw him through an underwater porthole at the pool using his thumbs to assault one of the girls as he was playing with them.

Mr Adamson maintained throughout that it was merely by accident and inadvertently. In his defence he told the jury that he found the suggestions "repulsive and repugnant". He said: "I am sickened by it."

After Mr Adamson's acquittal Judge Lockett accepted apologies by the *Daily Mirror* and Independent Television News for breaches of the Contempt of Court Act 1981.

The judge said he had made an order at the start of the trial that no proceedings taken in the absence of the jury should be reported until the end of the trial.

But the *Daily Mirror* of July 20 contained a photograph of the porthole through which the two police officers alleged they saw Mr Adamson indecently assault a girl.

An ITN bulletin had carried a report about the admissibility of evidence which had been heard in the absence of the jury. ITN's reporter explained that he was out of court at the time and was unaware the jury was absent.



Mr Peter Adamson after his acquittal yesterday.

ACTOR MIRRORS MAN: In real life Mr Peter Adamson is as blunt and straightforward as his *Coronation Street* character Len Fairclough, the builder and plumber who has dropped up the bar of the Rover's Return for the past 20 years.

He was born in a Liverpool chip shop, left school at 14 and worked in a solicitor's office until he was dismissed for persistently drumming with pens on a desk.

A grant from Liverpool corporation

allowed him to go to the London Academy of Music and Dramatic Art to take up his real love, acting, but after five months he was asked to leave.

Mr Adamson became actor and stage manager with Bury repertory at £5 a week and later joined *Coronation Street* as the builder with an image of punch-ups and pints. Then in real life he developed an alcohol problem.

He stopped drinking in 1969

Aspinall 'not happy' with zoo safety after tiger killings

Mr John Aspinall allegedly mauled him to death in August 1980.

The death of the second keeper five weeks later was blamed yesterday on a decision to separate the tigress and her cub.

Mr Ernest Bishop, a senior inspector with the Health and Safety Executive, told Canterbury Crown Court that when he asked Mr Aspinall whether he had enough staff and keepers to ensure safety, the zoo owner said he was not entirely happy, but could not afford more staff.

Mr Aspinall's zoo company, Howlets and Fort Lympne Estates, denies two summonses alleging failure to ensure the safety of employees.

A prosecution brought by the Health and Safety Executive alleges that "risks and corner-cutting" at Howlets Zoo, near Canterbury, led to the deaths of Mr Robert Wilson and Mr Brian Stocks.

Mr Bishop said Mr Aspinall told him his company had no written safety policy for the zoo. His zoo manager had been told to produce a document but "was finding it hard". This was in spite of letters from the executive.

Mr Aspinall had said there were no written safety instructions to keepers who might enter big cats' enclosures.

Mr Bishop said Mr Aspinall encouraged what was termed an organic relationship between keepers and the animals.

"He explained this as a bond between keeper and animal," he said. "He would allow keepers to enter animals' enclosures alone 'if the keeper was confident'."

Mr John Reid, for the prosecution, has alleged that the zoo broke safety regulations by allowing keepers to enter the enclosures of big cats alone. Mr Stocks had been alone when

Zeya the Siberian tigress mauled him to death in August 1980.

The death of the second keeper five weeks later was blamed yesterday on a decision to separate the tigress and her cub.

Zeya was moved to an adjoining enclosure, leaving her cub, when Mr Wilson and two other keepers went to clean her enclosure. It was the "key to the attack" in which Zeya leapt a separating fence and snapped Mr Wilson's neck.

Mr Leslie Flewin, a former London Zoo keeper, told the court.

"The big mistake had been made in leaving the cub in that enclosure. The cub should never have been left there."

"Big cats are lethal and powerful animals. Another member would defend its young even if it does not want them. It might attack them itself but it would not let you attack them."

Mr Flewin said it would have been well within Zeya's capabilities to leap the fence, which the prosecution alleges was too low for safety.

Mr Mary Branker told the court that Zeya would have been irritable while she was weaning her cub. "It is always unwise to separate a cub from its mother," she said.

"The natural instinct for the cub is to wish to be with the mother."

Zeya should have been shot after the first killing and not allowed to kill again.

"Once a tiger has realized how easy it is to kill a human it would lose its respect and be much more likely to strike again," Mrs Branker said.

The hearing continues today. The tiger in the photograph on page 1 of *The Times* yesterday, showing the two keepers who were killed, was not Zeya.

Christmas pudding plea fails

The European Community has ignored protests from British consumers and food manufacturers and decided to prolong a levy on imports of dried fruit which could put up the price of this year's Christmas puddings by 10 per cent.

The EEC Commission is arranging to extend for one year a minimum import price on sultanas and raisins from outside the Community, designed to protect Greek producers, Brussels officials said.

British consumers and manufacturers have argued that the system results in a "sultana mountain" of inferior quality produce while increasing the price of American, Australian, Turkish and other sultanas which the British public - the biggest dried fruit consumers in the Community - want to buy.

Composer's wife gains decree



Mrs Sarah Lloyd Webber, who was awarded a special procedure decree nisi by Judge Sot in London yesterday because of her husband's adultery. She named Miss Sarah Brightman, a former Hot Gossip dancer and singer.

Andrew Lloyd Webber who has composed several successful musicals has said he wants to marry Miss Brightman, who once danced in his hit show *Cats*.

Name of farm 'branded' on hill

A farmer who used paraffin to brand more than 1,000 of his hillside area near Church Stretton with 60ft letters advertising his fruit farm was fined £200 and ordered to pay £121 costs by Shrewsbury magistrates yesterday.

Mr Timothy Corbett, aged 47, a county councillor, of the Dover House, Longnor, near Shrewsbury, admitted contravening advertisement control planning regulations.

Council housing asbestos alert

Motherwell council is to examine all of its homes after the discovery of blue asbestos in a council house wall.

The house is one of two hundred built in Lanarkshire in the late 1950s. The blue asbestos was discovered when Mr Joseph McPhillips began sanding a bathroom wall.

£1m pier plan

Southend Pier, the largest in the world, is to be restored, at a cost of £1m, made up of £200,000 from the Department of the Environment and £800,000 from the local council.

French plaque

A blue plaque to commemorate General de Gaulle and the Free French is to be placed at their Second World War headquarters in Carlton Gardens, Westminster.

Driving instructors want harder tests

By Clifford Webb, Motoring Correspondent

A group of West Country driving instructors launched a new organization yesterday to campaign for tougher Department of Transport tests for instructors.

Within minutes of its formation in Bristol, the Association of Professional Driving Instructors attacked proposed legislation on instructor training as "too little and too late".

Mr Richard Campbell, its vice-chairman, said: "These steps will only affect new applicants and do nothing to improve the standards of 26,000 approved instructors and 2,500 trainee instructors already on the road."

Mr John Wilson, its chairman, said that the low qualification standards required by the department had allowed too many people to join the profession. There was now fierce competition over prices and "ridiculously long hours were worked". A tired driver was a danger to pupils and other road users. Good instructors

were leaving and being replaced by less competent ones.

The association, which plans to become a national group, has drawn up a code of conduct for members which sets a maximum of 40 hours instruction a week. The association insists that members take the advanced driving course of the Royal Society for the Prevention of Accidents.

The association says that only 50 per cent of learner drivers pass their tests, despite the majority having had professional tuition.

Mr Lynda Chalker, Under Secretary of State for Transport, announced last Wednesday that a private member's Bill would be introduced by Mrs Elizabeth Peacock, Conservative MP for Batley and Spen, to improve the calibre of new driving instructors.

At present, instructors must pass a written test, a driving test, and a practical one in instruction. Mrs Peacock's Bill would seek to raise the standards of all three.

Graffiti strike threat

Workers at a Greater Manchester company are threatening to strike after a man was dismissed for allegedly writing graffiti on a lavatory wall.

A Transport and General Workers' Union official at SPD, of Golborne, near Wigan, claimed that the management dismantled the cubicle and sent it off for "expert" examination, along with handwriting specimens and a list of suspects, after the company's own efforts had failed to find the culprit.

The dismissed man, Aiden

Cotterell, a warehouseman aged 21 protests his innocence. The company has refused to comment.

Demanding Mr Cotterell's reinstatement, Mr Frank Dooley, a union official, said: "In the joint agreement between management and union there is a disciplinary procedure and unless they follow it, I shall recommend a full-time dispute with official backing."

At his home in Ashton-in-Makerfield, Mr Cotterell said: "If it had not cost me my job I might laugh about it."

Plea by mistress rejected

A woman who claimed a share in the home in which she and her lover lived for nearly 20 years is entitled to nothing, the Court of Appeal ruled yesterday.

Had she and her lover married, the position would have been different. But, the judges said, it was for Parliament, not the courts, to make the law fairer to mistresses.

They ruled that Mrs Valerie Burns, aged 40, was not entitled to any share of the house in Osidge Lane, Southgate, London, where her former lover, Patrick Burns, a businessman, aged 57, remained after their relationship ended.

She had two sons by him, but moved out of their bedroom after he went on an overseas trip with a female personal assistant.

Her appeal, against a High Court ruling last year in which Mr Justice Dillon also refused to give her anything, was dismissed.

Mrs Burns acted as a wife and changed her name to Burns by deed poll.

But in cases where an unmarried couple had shared a home bought only in the name of one of them, such as that of Mrs Burns and her lover, then it was the financial contributions of the couple towards the purchase which had to be considered.

Of Mrs Burns, the judge said: "When one compares the ultimate results with what it would have been had she married and taken the appropriate steps under the 1973 Matrimonial Causes Act, I think that she can justifiably say that fate has not been kind to her."

Union protests at crew's treatment

By Richard Evans

Seven merchant seamen who were moved to Army barracks for 48 hours while their ship was taken over by Kent police and the Special Air Service Regiment for an anti-hijacking exercise, will return to the vessel this morning amid a growing controversy over their treatment.

The National Union of Seamen said the crew of the 1,500-ton Tankerman were given one hour to leave the vessel after it docked at Chatham on Monday. They were then taken in Army vehicles to the Royal School of Military Engineering's mess at Chatham Barracks near Rochester where they stayed as "guests".

The union said yesterday: "They were given shirts and ties to make them look respectable for the mess."

The union discovered what had happened after a local official, who responded to a telex from a crew member about pay, went to Chatham.

An official complaint has been lodged with the Ministry of Defence and the ship's owner by Mr James Slater, general secretary of the union, over the crew's treatment.

A union official will meet the crew today. The union said: "We want to know if, being civilians, they were allowed the liberty to which they are entitled. To get virtually arrested by the authorities, like they were, is not on."

Mr Gerald Lever, assistant managing director of Rowbotham Tanking, the ship's owners, said yesterday: "The men were most certainly not arrested. Those who wanted to go home were allowed to do so."

Kent police said yesterday that the crew members had been told of the exercise in advance.

As the dispute continued the SAS, the Special Boat Squadron and Kent police carried on with what had become a much publicized security exercise in Chatham dockyard.

German police link

From Arthur Osman, Birmingham

British detectives are unlikely to interview Herr Fritz Witte the West German tourist who was in Edinburgh when Caroline Hogg, aged five, disappeared on July 8, Leicestershire police said yesterday. It is probable that the West German police at Dortmund will interview Herr Witte, a school teacher, on their behalf.

Another line of inquiry appeared to have ended when a man approached Scottish police and said he was probably the person seen with a young girl at

Tebay East service area on the M6 in Cumbria on the night of July 8.

The girl's photograph and a description of her clothing are being displayed on posterboards all over the country.

The police have failed to find any trace of her clothing along the A444 near Twycross, Leicestershire, where her body was found dumped near a lay-by on July 8. A senior officer said: "There is a limit to the area we can search and we are really relying on the public."

Some 2,300 jumps had been made in June and July compared with 1,800 in June, July and August last year.

There was no question of people being unprepared for jumping.

Parachute casualties fill wards

A spate of casualties from weekend charity parachute drops has led to a surgeon suspending his routine operating schedule.

Four amateur parachutists from a club in Thuxton, Hampshire, suffered fractures on Sunday, bringing to 13 the club casualty list in the past month.

Mr Francis Moynihan and orthopaedic consultant at the Royal Hampshire County Hospital, Winchester, said yesterday: "We can not go on like this. All the beds are full. Some parachutists have major fractures and one has lost a leg. It is appalling, something must be done to halt this alarming list of casualties."

The hospital authorities are to ask the British Parachute Association to "bring pressure to bear" on the Thuxton club to review its weekend training methods.

Mr Barry Bias, a training instructor with the Thuxton club, said: "I don't think the number of casualties is such a high statistic. Fine Weather had encouraged people to come out parachuting and many of them were doing sponsored charity jumps."

Some 2,300 jumps had been made in June and July compared with 1,800 in June, July and August last year.

There was no question of people being unprepared for jumping.

Church says 'No' to bells and £19,000

By Craig Seton

Mr Joseph Seaman, aged 92, wanted to leave something to his local church so that he could be remembered after his death. Now, after a disagreement over his wishes, the church has lost most of its belling, one of its oldest worshippers, and the prospect of bequests totalling £19,000.

Mr Seaman, a widower, decided to give £9,000 to St George's church at Wembdon, Dorset, for two new bells and to leave another £10,000 in his will for the church authorities to spend as they wished. However, the parochial church council decided that the £9,000 could be better spent.

When Mr Seaman was told he withdrew the offer of the money for the bells, decided to change his will to cut out the £10,000 bequest, and told the Rev Peter Bannister, the vicar, that he would have nothing more to do with the church.

Six of St George's bell-ringers, who had been delighted at the prospect of increasing the number of bells from six to eight, have resigned.

Mr Seaman, a retired decorator and undertaker, said: "It was an insult. The idea was that it would have been in my memory for years to come and we had even started getting estimates and had the church tower tested."

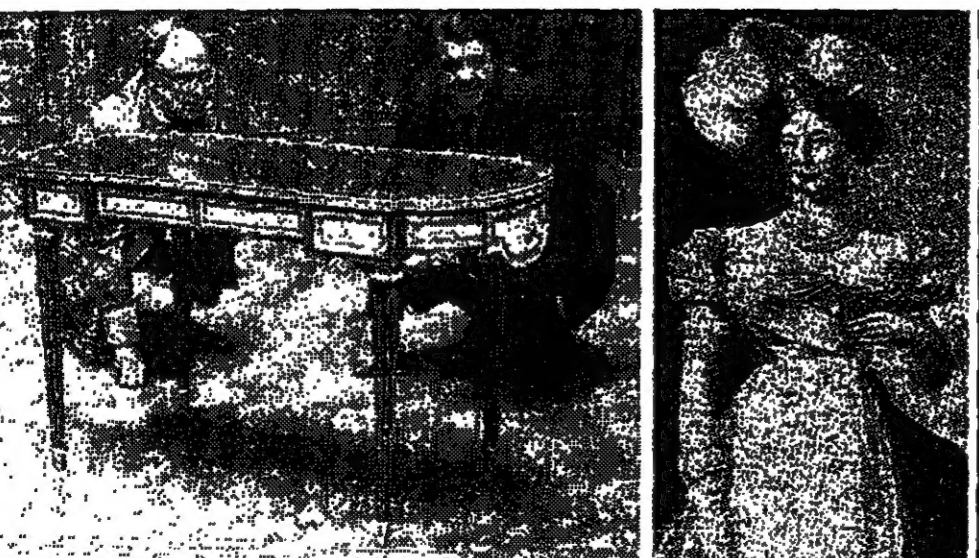


Table talk: Mr Hugh Roberts, furniture director of Christie's (left) and Mr John Floyd, chairman examining the desk of the Tsaritsa (right) (Photograph by Bill Warhurst).

Tsaritsa's desk may set £1m record

By Geraldine Norman, Sale Room Correspondent

In May 1794 the Grand Duke Paul of Russia, later Tsar Paul I, and his wife Maria Feodorovna, paid an incognito visit to Paris. Posing as the "Comte et Comtesse du Nord", they dropped in on Daguerre, the leading furniture supplier of the day, and spent a small fortune. Someone had presumably alerted him to their creditworthiness in advance.

The exquisite tulipwood desk, decorated with Sevres porcelain plaques which they bought for their bedroom, is to be sold at Christie's on December 1, and could well prove the first piece of furniture to top the £1m mark at auction.

The auction record for any piece of furniture stands at £990,000 and this table is certainly in the top class. It is thought to have been made by Martin Carlin, one of the greatest neoclassical cabinet-makers of Paris. He has created a very feminine piece, with bouquets of flowers cascading over the white Sevres porcelain plaques, set off by the golden sparkle of finely chiselled gilt bronze mounts.

Christie's will not disclose the name of the present owner. But it is an open secret that it belongs to Mr Habib Sabat, and Iranian businessman.

He built a replica of the

Petit Trianon in the residential suburbs of Tehran and furnished his Paris apartment with the finest French furniture. He bought the Tsaritsa's desk at Christie's in London in 1971 for £173,250, then the highest price for a piece of furniture by almost £100,000. He bought the desk from the Museum which had been anxious to acquire the piece.

It had belonged to Mrs Anna Thompson Dodge of the motor manufacturing family. In her will she left the desk to the Museum for her music room and money for further purchases. This explains its determination to buy the star of her collection.

Woman hid lover's body under stairs

From Tim Jones

A young mother who killed her lover with an axe and kept his body in a home-made coffin beneath the stairs for four months walked free yesterday after Swansea Crown Court was told how she had been brutalized, hit and humiliated.

Miss Llinos Marian Evans, aged 27, denied murder but admitted the manslaughter of Mr Robert John Ellis, aged 35, at their council home in Sliam, Dyfed.

Mr Justice Leonard put her on probation for three years, saying: "You clearly suffered greatly, not only in body but in spirit by physical cruelty and by conduct designed to reduce you to a state of total humiliation."

Mr Gareth Williams, QC, for Evans, said that Mr Ellis had abused and brutalized her. "He made her strip naked in front of the children and forced her to eat from the floor made her eat her own vomit and made her lick his boots. There is no one who cannot feel the deepest pity for this woman."

He said that apart from his brutality, Mr Ellis would wait until her two young children were asleep and then punch them awake.

Evans told the police: "I was terrified. I just did not want him to hit me again and again. She said she went upstairs while he slept and hit him on the head with a frying pan. 'He turned around and looked at me. I had never seen so much hatred and evil in those eyes. He started to get up. I ran downstairs into the kitchen and got an axe. I went back upstairs and hit him on the head.'"

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Despite prolonged enquiry we have found no reference anywhere, even in established religions, which account for this arising. It is therefore clear that the Emin requires from all who approach a thorough-going realism; and it is because this has never been offered from the media that press coverage of the Emin has been so totally inaccurate.

Where this arising will lead from this time it has not been possible for us to state and we therefore make no claim to any stature or worth other than by way of presenting the evidence of the results, trends and vigour of the last ten years.

A booklet setting out in detail the history, work and results of the Emin will be sent on receipt of a large stamped addressed envelope. Please send to: The Emin Foundation, 218 New Kings Road, London SW6 4XE. 01-788 9319

Britain and China will resume Hongkong discussion next week

Peking (Reuters) - British and Chinese officials described their latest round of talks yesterday as useful and agreed to meet again next Tuesday and Wednesday.

The discussions began last September when China announced that it intended to regain sovereignty over the territory, most of which is ruled by Britain under a 99-year lease which expires in 1997.

A British Embassy spokesman said Sir Percy Cradock, the Ambassador who is leader of the British team, and Sir Edward Youde, the Governor of Hongkong, would visit London next month for consultation.

He said they were likely to meet Sir Geoffrey Howe, the Foreign Secretary, Mr Richard Luce, Junior Minister of State at the Foreign Office, who has special responsibility for the colony, and possibly Mrs Margaret Thatcher.

Both British and Chinese officials said no change was expected in their negotiating teams for next week's talks.

which would be their last meeting until September.

Mr Qi Huaiyuan, head of the Information Department of the Chinese Foreign Ministry, said: "The two sides have had two more useful days of talks."

"They will meet again to resume these talks on August 2 and 3 in Peking, after which there will be a recess of some weeks. Talks will recommence in September."

Sir Edward took part in the talks this week and last month as part of the British delegation and not as a representative of Hongkong. Peking does not recognize his right to speak for the colony's population of 5.2 million people, about 95 per cent of whom are Chinese.

Hongkong Island, the business heart of the colony, and the tip of Kowloon peninsula were ceded to Britain in perpetuity; but these areas are not considered viable without the leased New Territories.

China, in any case, does not recognize the validity of any of the treaties, which it says were signed under duress by the crumbling Manchu empire.

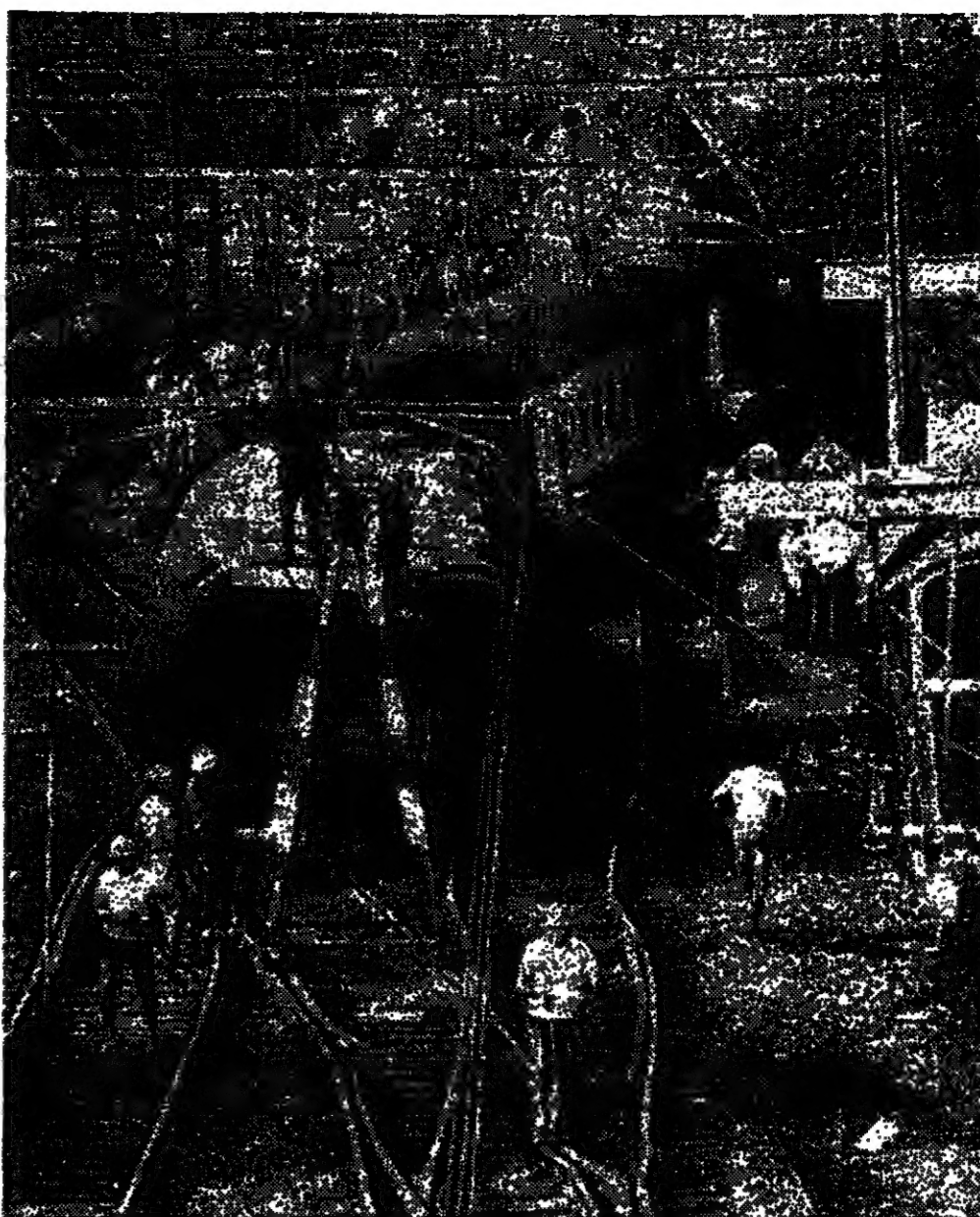
Chinese leaders have frequently said they plan to maintain the prosperity and stability of Hongkong. But many Hongkong residents are sceptical, saying Peking has given little indication of how it plans to achieve this.

The present phase of talks is officially described as more detailed than those which started last September, informed Hongkong sources in Peking said the earlier round was deadlocked at one stage in over the highly sensitive issue of sovereignty.

But the two sides had since set this aside and agreed to discuss technical issues concerning the future administration of the territory.

Uncertainty over the future of Hongkong has caused serious jitters on the colony's stock markets and in June the Hongkong dollar sank to a record, 7.73 against the US dollar.

It has since recovered and traded yesterday at 7.19 to the US dollar and stocks rose on a wave of speculative buying.



Crash aftermath: Scene near Avignon after the Nice-Paris express was derailed

Teenagers die in rail crash

Barbentane, France (AP) - A broken axle was the apparent cause of a train derailment early yesterday in southern France that killed four Canadian teenagers and injured 24 other passengers on board an overnight Nice-Paris express.

The train, carrying about 500 passengers, was travelling at 85 mph when two carriages derailed at the small Barbentane train station, seven miles south east of Avignon in the Provence countryside.

A scene of panic followed. Blood-stained pillows, sleeping bags and suitcases flew through the air when two sleeping carriages slipped over. About 66 ft of rail was twisted in the air to a height of 13 ft by the force of the shock, while the last two carriages battered the station platform.

"It was an apocalyptic scene," one rescue worker said. "Many of the injured were taken off the train while they were in the midst of receiving blood transfusions."

Authorities rushed 150 rescue workers, 20 doctors and 15 ambulances to the scene to care for the injured and help evacuate the passengers, most of whom were sleeping when the accident occurred at 1.15am, four hours after the train had left Nice.

"I was shaken awake by the vibrations that got stronger and stronger, then the brutal stop," a passenger who escaped serious injury said. "We were then showered with falling suitcases."

The Canadian Embassy in Paris identified the four dead as Patricia Paquin, Marie

Basile, Lian Jones and Carole Powell, all women aged between 17 and 20.

Embassy officials said the four, and 25 other Canadian students, were in the carriage that suffered the most damage. Another group of Canadians had tickets for the train, but arrived at Nice after it had pulled out.

● PARIS: Storms which have swept France over the past ten days, have left ten people dead, injured dozens and caused tens of millions of pounds of damage to crops and livestock. (Diana Geddes writes).

Camp-sites on the west coast have been particularly hard hit. North-west of La Rochelle, three campers were killed by falling trees and six injured as storms ripped apart their tents.

Falklands offensive by junta at UN

From Andrew Thompson, Buenos Aires

Argentine Foreign Ministry officials are preparing a new diplomatic offensive over the Falkland Islands, focused on the next meeting of the United Nations General Assembly, due in September.

They hope to repeat and possibly harden last year's UN resolution, which called on Britain and Argentina to enter peaceful negotiations on sovereignty.

Senior Javier Pérez de Cuéllar, the UN Secretary-General, sent Notes to both governments last week asking them to set out their positions in the light of last year's resolution. The officials said that Argentina would reply in the next few days.

Senior Juan Aguirre Lanari, the Foreign Minister, was due back yesterday from Caracas, where he attended celebrations to mark the bicentenary of the birth of Simon Bolívar.

During his stay in Venezuela, he commented that last year's resolution "has not yielded fruit", but added: "We are committed, with the support of our brother Latin American countries, and the favourable

vote of other members of the international community, to arrive at a negotiated solution to this dispute over sovereignty."

Admiral Ruben Franco, the Argentine Navy commander, who was also in Caracas for the Bolívar bicentenary, said: "Let no one doubt that we will return to the Malvinas (Falklands). There is now no room for usurpation and colonialism."

As part of its strategy, the Argentine Foreign Ministry is inviting representatives of the opposition political parties to attend the next UN General Assembly.

Last year, the vote on the resolution was taken in early November. If this timetable is repeated, the vote this year will come after Argentina's general election, which due on October 30.

The intention is to show that the Argentine Government's position is shared by victors at the polls. The Foreign Ministry hopes that representatives of the two main parties, the Peronists and the radicals, will be present at the UN.

Glut strengthens Soviet hand in grain talks

Vienna (Reuters) - The United States and the Soviet Union opened two days of talks in Vienna yesterday on US grain supplies to the Soviet Union, with a world glut putting the latter in a strong position.

American officials have said negotiations are likely to be long and hard, with little prospect of early agreement at this session, the third round of talks on renewing the accord.

Mr Boris Gerderev, the Soviet Deputy Trade Minister, a veteran of grain negotiations who is again leading his country's delegation, expressed hope that the two sides would reach agreement at this round.

"I hope this will be the last time. We will do our best," he told reporters as he arrived at the Soviet trade mission, where the talks are taking place.

● MOSCOW: American negotiators may find that they have overestimated the Soviet demand for imported grain this year, according to Western economic experts in Moscow (Richard Owen writes).

The current agreement expires at the end of September.

At the last round of talks in Moscow a month ago the United States tried to persuade the Russians to increase their import commitments. At present the Soviet Union is obliged to purchase six million tonnes of American grain a year.

Experts say that despite the endemic problems of Soviet agriculture, including badly maintained machinery, inadequate storage and fertilizer shortages, this year's harvest should be better than expected thanks to almost ideal weather conditions. Following a series of bad harvests Moscow stopped publishing statistics, but Western estimates put this year's crop at more than 200 million tonnes.

This still leaves a shortfall of about 34 million tonnes, but with a world glut and the expected good harvest at home the Soviet Union can afford to cut back on imports, experts say.

Last week Soviet officials told a visiting Argentine trade delegation that Russia would not need to buy more than the 4.5 million tonnes to which it is committed.

Warning to Japan on defence role

From Richard Hanson, Tokyo

Mr Bill Hayden, the Australian Foreign Minister, said in Tokyo yesterday that his Government does not favour a stepping-up of Japan's defence role.

"Australia would be concerned if - either as a result of external pressure or internal decision - there were a shift in Japan's basic defence posture, or a dramatic acceleration of defence spending", he said at the end of two days of talks.

Mr Hayden appears to have chosen a deliberately moderate view of how Japan's defence capabilities should develop.

"Australia would also be concerned if Japan were to attempt to develop a regional security role. This would have a destabilizing effect on the Asia-Pacific region", he declared.

He did say, however, that his statement on defence did not mean that he thought Japan was about to take actions which would worry Australia.

Rain brings some relief to S Africa

Johannesburg (Reuters) - Drought-stricken South Africa is rejoicing after a weekend of widespread heavy rain. In some areas, more rain fell than in the past 18 months.

The rain, accompanied by falling temperatures and gale-force winds on the south coast, failed to end the drought, which is considered to be the worst this century.

It has devastated the maize crop, the staple food of thousands of blacks in impoverished rural areas and the country's main farm export.

Deaths related to malnutrition have increased sharply, and about two million tonnes of maize will have to be imported.

The rain has come too late to save the maize crop, but agricultural experts said it should prevent further deterioration in sugar and wheat crops.

The southern coast industrial town of East London was one of the wettest places in the country over the weekend. Winds gusting up to 70 mph tore off roofs and uprooted trees.

The rain brought little comfort to Durban residents, who have suffered stringent water rationing.

Portuguese army chief faces sack

From Our Correspondent, Lisbon

President Eanes of Portugal has been asked by the Government to dismiss General Amadeu Garcia Dos Santos, Army Chief of Staff, whom he appointed two years ago. The request seems likely to widen the breach between the President and the government of Dr Mario Soares.

No official reason for the dismissal has been made public, but after a meeting yesterday of top army generals, including General Garcia Dos Santos, with Dr Soares said that he had been told by government members that the decision had been a political one.

Senhor Mota Pinto said that the dismissal, had been by a unanimous decision based exclusively on the officer's qualifications. Four other generals were confirmed in their posts.

General Garcia Dos Santos, who is 47 and a former professor in Lisbon's military academy, played a prominent role in the Army coup that restored democracy to Portugal on April 25, 1974.

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Moscow says Reagan plans to send forces into Central America

From Richard Owen, Moscow

The Soviet Union has accused Washington of planning direct military operations in Central America involving United States troops.

Tass said the United States wanted to bring down the Sandinista regime in Nicaragua, and help the "right-wing regime" in El Salvador to "drown the patriotic movement of the popular masses in blood".

Central America is being presented by Soviet propaganda as proof of the "ugly face" of the Reagan Administration. Officials here assert the Soviet Union's right to support "freedom fighters" in the region, but are more cautious about whether Russia will increase arms supplies to leftist forces.

The Russians do not accept the theory that the United States is entitled to interfere in its own backyard in the same way that Moscow influences events in Eastern Europe. On the contrary, the Soviet press has lambasted "American imperialism" for helping dictatorial regimes to suppress national liberation movements in El Salvador and elsewhere.

and for allegedly preparing an invasion into "democratic" Nicaragua. "No wonder Americans see the ghost of Vietnam," one Moscow paper commented.

Tass said this week that the scope and duration of planned American military manoeuvres in Central America and the Caribbean next month suggested they were actually preparations for military operations in the region.

Moscow strongly supports the Sandinista regime in Nicaragua, and is reported to have channelled arms supplies to Managua through Havana. Cuba remains the main Soviet base of operations in the area, and Moscow this week sent Mr Mikhail Solomtsev, a senior Kremlin leader, to Havana for the celebrations marking Cuban national day, the anniversary of the assault on the Moncada barracks which marked the beginning of Castro's successful bid for power.

The formation of a bi-partisan committee on Central America chaired by Dr Henry Kissinger is viewed in Moscow as an attempt by Mr Reagan to gain general support for an

attack on the leftist regime in Nicaragua and suppression of the rebels in El Salvador. Tass said the Kissinger committee was "a clear deception".

Dr Kissinger, who once enjoyed favour in Soviet eyes as the architect of the Nixon détente policy, is being described as the "tool of Rockefeller and other monopolists", and the Great Destabilizer for his "disgraceful role" in the overthrow of the Allende regime in Chile.

The Russians have also attacked Mrs Jean Kirkpatrick, the American delegate to the United Nations, for allegedly trying to blackmail Nicaragua, "a country smaller than Kansas", and for supporting repressive anti-communist regimes in Chile, Honduras and El Salvador.

Reagan officials talk of democracy in Central America and blame unrest in the region on communism. Tass commented. In fact, it said, the crisis in Central America was not the result of "Marxist Leninist intrigues" invented by Mr Reagan but "the tragic position of the broad masses".

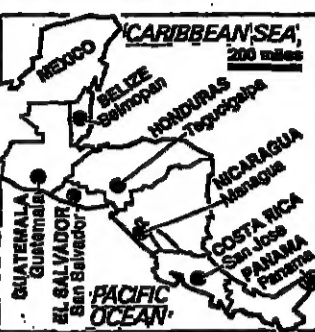
Salvador civilian deaths rise

San Salvador (Reuters) - Statistics compiled by the United States Embassy here show that the number of civilians killed in El Salvador has risen despite official US reports that the Salvadorean Government has kept trying to improve the human rights situation.

The Embassy figures, largely based on local press reports, show that the number of deaths caused by political violence rose 9 per cent to 1,054 in the first six months of this year. It was 961 in the second half of 1982. Human rights groups say the figures cast doubts on the validity of the process by which the Reagan Administration certifies progress in the country's human rights record before approving military and economic aid.

By law, the Reagan Administration must certify every six months that the Salvadorean Government is "working to increase respect for human rights and reduce abuses by security forces".

In the text of the last certification report, issued last week, Mr George Shultz, the Secretary of State, said there was less evidence of progress towards ending violence against non-combatants and controlling all elements of the armed forces. But he added that the Government was persisting in its efforts to improve the human rights situation.



Meanwhile, Salvadorean military officials said leftist guerrillas had stepped up attacks to undermine a national military campaign and killed at least six Government troops in a raid on an eastern province of San Miguel, some 100 miles east of the capital. They had been repulsed after a 17-hour gun battle.

The Salvadorean Army said yesterday that at least 80 rebels had been killed and 12 of their camps destroyed in an 11-day anti-guerrilla sweep. The operation was said to have driven most insurgents out of the province of Cuscatlan, north of the capital.

● MANAGUA: Nicaragua is willing to discuss its alleged arms shipment to Salvadorean guerrillas at a peace conference this week in Panama City, said Tomas Borge, the Interior Minister, said in a speech here.

He said Nicaragua will include weapons traffic to El Salvador on its agenda for the July 28-30 talks. Despite the lack of proof of such traffic, Nicaragua planned to discuss the issue "because this supposedly is what most irritates the US Government".

● TEGUCIGALPA: President Belisario Betancur of Colombia will visit Honduras on Wednesday to discuss a Central American peace plan, said Edgar Paz Barrios, the Honduran Foreign Minister, said yesterday.

President Betancur will have talks with President Roberto Suazo Cordova of Honduras on the plan drawn up by the Contradanza group, which groups Colombia, Mexico, Venezuela and Panama, the Foreign Minister said.

A principal subject of discussion will be the peace conference in Panama later this week between the foreign minister of the Central American Nations and the Contradanza group, he said. The conference will analyse recent Contradanza peace plan which called for the removal of foreign military advisers and bases from Central America.

Western diplomats say this refers directly to the Nicaraguan rebels using US-baked Honduran as a base to attack Nicaragua.

Iraqi President visits the Gulf war front

Baghdad (Reuters) - President Saddam Hussein of Iraq visited the northern sector of the Gulf war yesterday as Iraq said it had foiled a first Iranian attack in the Haj Omran area of the front.

The Iraqi news agency INA said President Hussein visited the First Army Corps in the mountainous Kurdistan province, where Iran launched an attack across the border on Saturday, to "express appreciation of the great heroism of our brave fighters".

The agency also quoted the corps commander as saying Iraqi forces early yesterday had beaten back an Iranian attack on what he called "an important mountain in the Haj Omran area".

The commander, a major-general who was not named, said Iranian forces gained a foothold on the mountain before being thrown off in a counter-attack, which involved jets and helicopter gunships.

● NIJASSA: Iran has issued a fresh warning that it will block the Gulf to all shipping and stop oil shipments if Iraq tries to prevent Iranian oil exports, the Iranian news agency IRNA reported yesterday (AP reports).

The latest warning came from Hajjatoleslam Akbar Hashemi Rafsanjani, Speaker of the Iranian Parliament, following a meeting of the Supreme Defence Council on Monday night, IRNA reported.

Knesset 'deceit' on Bill

From Moshe Brilliant, Tel Aviv

Mr Menachem Savidor, the Knesset Speaker, in an unprecedented action yesterday alleged that a private members' Bill restricting archaeological digs had cleared the House the night before through deceit and conspiracy and he declared the vote null and void.

Amid howls of protest from the benches of his own party, Likud, Mr Savidor acknowledged that legal experts had unanimously told him that the Speaker had no authority to invalidate a Knesset decision, but that he was doing so anyway out of a sense of "natural justice", and logic.

The Bill, requiring archaeologists to subject digs to rabbinical review if they encountered suspected grave sites, was scheduled for debate yesterday, but Mr Meir Cohen, Avidor, the Deputy Speaker, who was in the chair, suddenly added it to the agenda a few minutes before midnight on Monday when most of the opposition members had left thinking that the day's business was completed.

Mr Cohen-Avidor, a Likud deputy, had been one of the sponsors of the controversial Bill.



A shady spot: Chad Government troops in the strategic town of Abéché shelter from the sun beside a military lorry equipped with anti-aircraft guns captured from the rebel forces of Mr Goukoni Oueddel.

Arafat men fight off PLO rebels

From Robert Fisk, Beirut

Palestinian guerrillas loyal to Mr Yasser Arafat fought off a four-hour machine-gun and rocket attack by Palestinian Liberation Organization (PLO) rebels on the western side of the Bekaa Valley yesterday in the most serious outbreak of fighting within the PLO for many weeks.

Rocket-propelled grenades fired by Palestinians belonging to Colonel Abu Moussa's rebel units exploded not just around the Arafat men, but in the nearby village of Jdita, killing several civilians.

At least 14 people - 10 of the guerrillas - died as the Palestinian rebels made 10 separate attacks down a hillside above the village on two compounds held by Mr Arafat's men.

By midday the streets of Jdita were strewn with sandbags, hastily-built earth wall defences and broken power lines. But the village, together with the PLO base to the east of it, remained firmly in the hands of the loyalists.

Jdita lies just west of Chitaura and forms the last pre-Arafat guerrilla base along the Syrian-Israeli front lines in the Bekaa.

The Syrian Army surrounded part of the village more than a month ago although Colonel Abu Ahmed Ismail, the local pre-Arafat PLO commander, said yesterday that no Syrian troops took part in the fighting on the rebels' side. The Colonel spent part of the morning talking to the Syrian commander in Chitaura by telephone.

He claimed that the rebels were assisted by the extremist Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine General Command (PFLP-GC), together with a number of guerrillas whom he said came from Pakistan and Bangladesh. Several hundred Palestinians are fighting alongside the PLO for the past three years but this is the first evidence that they may have joined the rebellion against Mr Arafat's rule.

The Arafat guerrillas at Jdita are usually fanatics, some no more than 15 years old, but yesterday they were joined by older men and were hastily digging new foxholes.

"In God's name", Colonel Ismail said, "if the PFLP-GC and Abu Moussa want to start fighting again, this will be their funeral".

The Arafat men have clearly been instructed to fight hard for their last outpost in the central Bekaa and there was evidence that PLO loyalists are trying to encourage Lebanese civilians to support them.

After the fighting subsided yesterday, more than 1,000 local residents from Jdita and parts of Chitaura held a demonstration, demanding an end to the fighting and threatening to leave the village if PLO commanders did not start shooting again.

Navy docking agreement near in Seychelles

From Leslie Plummer, Victoria, Seychelles

The Seychelles, whose army is equipped by the Soviet Union, is about to reach agreement on allowing British and American naval ships in the Indian Ocean to dock in the islands for shore leave.

While Soviet ships have been calling at the Seychelles under the Socialist Government of President Albert René, British and American vessels have been barred. The reason given has been that both navies refused as a matter of policy to sign docking papers declaring that no nuclear weapons or nuclear-powered equipment is carried on board their ships.

According to diplomatic sources here, however, the Seychelles Government - desperate for visitors' foreign currency and seeking to present an image of non-alignment - has produced a new docking declaration which gets round the nuclear problem.

The new document simply notes that it is Seychelles policy to refuse entry to ships carrying

Sri Lanka: Island of terror

By Henry Stanhope, Diplomatic Correspondent

The violence engulfing Sri Lanka is being described as the worst for a quarter of a century and could lead to fundamental changes in the country's constitution.

The Tamils with their own religion and language represent a small minority of 12.5 per cent out of the population of some 15 million ruled by the overwhelming Sinhalese majority.

Despite their minority status the Tamils for years held top jobs in business and administration. The British, jobs they have mostly since lost under Sinhalese rule. The cause of the present violence must therefore be seen in part economic terms.

Tamils come from south India here there are about 30 million of them; but they also live throughout the Far East and Africa.

Most are Hindus, although there are also Christian and Muslim Tamils. In Sri Lanka, Tamil men and women dress differently from the Buddhist Sinhalese, the women in the long bright saris of southern India instead of the blouse and

short sari worn by the Sinhalese.

More than half of those in Sri Lanka are known as Ceylon Tamils who have been there as long as the Sinhalese themselves and who inhabit largely the north and east of the island with Jaffna, centre of much of the present trouble, as their unofficial capital.

The others are Indian Tamils, poor workers imported from the sub-continent by the British in the days of empire, to work on the tea estates up country. Large numbers of these have fled to their Indian homelands in recent years, according to London sources.

These mostly involved in the present troubles are the Ceylon Tamils, a highly educated, superior minority, who feel victimized by the Sinhalese.

Not only are there fewer industrial opportunities for them in the north but Tamil boys have been discriminated against in winning places at University, according to their elders - who are bitter in their condemnation of President Jayawardene. His part in an anti-Tamil march as a young

politician, has not been forgotten.

These elders have found political expression through the Tamil Liberation Front (TULF), largest of the opposition parties whose objectives is a fair deal for their people and more respect for human rights by the authorities. Only about 3 per cent of the armed forces and about 6 per cent of those in the police are said to be Tamil.

The growing call for a separate Tamil state in the north has risen with the Tamil Tigers, a well armed, educated band of militants who were behind last Saturday's attack on an army lorry in which 13 soldiers died.

Sporadic attacks on police and servicemen since the late 1970s lay behind emergency legislation under the Anti-Terrorism Act and to accusations by the Tamils of repressive measures taken against suspects.

These would seem to have been largely upheld by an Amnesty International report earlier this month, which referred to long periods of solitary confinement and torture.

Andropov's cautious reform deal

From Richard Owen, Moscow

The Soviet leadership yesterday announced a limited economic reform package which disappointed some but encouraged those who expect President Andropov to reform the Soviet economy gradually and cautiously rather than at a stroke.

Mr Andropov has hinted since coming to power last November that he wants to invigorate Soviet industry through decentralization and material incentives, with the Hungarian reforms as a possible model.

The measures announced on the front pages of all newspapers yesterday, however, are confined to factories which come under the ministries of heavy industry and the electro-technical industry, and to selected plants in Ukrainian, Byelorussian and Latvian light industries.

Described as an experiment, the measures are intended to increase productivity, improve quality and encourage technological innovation. Wages and bonuses will be more closely linked to production, marketing and sales, and factory managers in the experimental plants will have greater control over allocation of resources, decisions on production, and the distribution of profits.

The reform measures, which come into effect next January, will come way short of East European practices, however. The precise nature of the powers granted to local managers is left deliberately vague, enabling Moscow to retain strict central control.

US Air Force knocks out missiles with laser

From Mohsin Ali, Washington

Laser beams experimentally fired from a US Air Force aircraft have been used successfully for the first time to knock down five air-to-air missiles.

An Air Force official here said that five heat-seeking Sidewinder missiles were diverted from their target - the laser-armed aircraft during two weeks of experiments in May at the Naval Weapons Centre, China Lake, California.

Lasers destroy by directing concentrated beams of thermal energy on to a target. In the case of an air-to-air missile, lasers can destroy the missile's guidance system and make it crash.

The experimental laser was mounted in an airborne laser laboratory on board a specially fitted Air Force KC 135, which is a military version of the Boeing 707.

The technological base established by these experiments will be applied to further laser development efforts.

The Air Force failed in its last anti-missile laser tests two years ago. The Army has already been successful in knocking down missiles, but with lasers fired from ground positions.

The tests are part of the high-energy laser research programme conducted by the Air Force Systems Command's Weapons Laboratory at Kirtland Air Force Base, New Mexico.

The US military has been carrying out extensive research looking toward development of weapons, including possible space-based lasers to intercept attacking intercontinental ballistic missiles.

These move about six times as fast as the Sidewinder, which travels at 2,000 mph. President Reagan, in a recent "Star Wars" Defence speech, hoped that lasers and other particle beam technology could be employed by the end of this century to render strategic nuclear weapons obsolete.

● The success of the American tests is seen as an important step towards the ultimate development of airborne laser weapons systems (our Defence Correspondent writes). It particularly suggests that progress has been made in overcoming problems of accurately aiming the laser.

EEC fish bargaining ends in deadlock

From Ian Murray, Brussels

Two days of hard bargaining by EEC fisheries ministers in Brussels ended yesterday evening in complete deadlock. The total failure of the meeting means that catch quotas for this year are still not fixed, that promised financial aid to help restructure EEC fishing fleets is blocked and that there is a risk of a fishing war with Norway.

The talks broke down because there was no possibility of agreeing figures for the share of North Sea herring - the one species left out in the common fisheries policy which was eventually signed at the start of this year.

Every country except West Germany objected to a new set of figures for dividing up the herring catch which was proposed yesterday morning. This would have given Britain only about four-fifths of the tonnage it is looking for and would have given Denmark less than half of what it wants.

For Mr Michael Jopling, the British Minister, these figures were "totally unacceptable". In the end the council was forced to hand over further argument on the question to a group of experts who are due to report back to the next Fisheries Council, which is not scheduled until early October.

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British women leading in bridge

From Keith Stanley, Wiesbaden

In the women's series of the European bridge championships, the British have moved into the lead at the end of the fifth round with good wins over Poland and Israel.

In the Open series, the British team continued their improvement with a fifth consecutive win over a leading team. However, France appear to have an unassailable lead and Italy are making a strong challenge for second place that carries entry into the world championships in Sweden later this year.

Results (Open series) round 15: Romania 4, Germany 16, Finland 6, Hungary 14, Netherlands 20, Belgium 0, Switzerland 2, Norway

17th: Britain 18, Sweden 2, Lebanon 13, Israel 7, Turkey 19, Portugal minus 1, Austria 13, Spain 7, Italy 19, Poland 1, Luxembourg 2, Iceland 18, France 20, Ireland 0, Denmark 14, Yugoslavia 6.

Results round 16: Yugoslavia 0, Romania 20, Norway 20, Lebanon minus 4, Belgium 5, Britain 15, Finland 14, Switzerland 6, Hungary 19, Netherlands 1, Iceland minus 2, Denmark 20, Poland minus 2, France 20, Spain 9, Luxembourg 11, Portugal 1, Italy 19, Israel 8, Austria 12, Sweden 17, Turkey 3, Ireland 10, Germany 10.

Standings after 16 rounds: 1 France 259, 2 Italy 206, 3 Norway 197, 4 Hungary 196, 5 Germany 194, 6 Belgium 190, 7 Sweden 186, 8 Austria 182, 9 Netherlands 181, 10 Denmark 168, 11 Poland 165, Britain 164, 13 Ireland 159, 14

Shark kills two off Barrier Reef

Melbourne - The skipper of a prawn trawler, wrecked off the North Queensland coast near the Barrier Reef on Sunday night, is recovering in hospital after a 36-hour ordeal during which his two-member crew, one a woman, were taken by a shark as the three clung in wreckage (Tony Duboudin writes).

Mr Ray Boundy, aged 33, skipper of the New Venture, said that after the shark attacked Dennis Murphy, aged 24, taking off his leg, Mr Murphy swam clear to draw the shark away. He was not seen again. Also killed was Linda Horton, aged 21.

Economic crime wave in China

Peking (Reuters) - China uncovered 192,000 cases of economic crimes since starting a drive against corruption 16 months ago, according to the People's Daily.

It quoted Mr Han Guang, secretary of the party's central disciplinary commission, as saying that a rotten core of party members was responsible. About 30,000 offenders had been sentenced and 8,500 people were thrown out of the party.

Jakarta plea to end killings

Jakarta - Indonesia's Legal Aid Society has asked the Government to end mysterious shootings which have left hundreds of hardened criminals dead in main cities in the past few months (our Correspondent writes).

It also deplored statements by government officials condoning the killings as "damaging the values and principles of the constitutional state".

The killings started early this year in Java and press reports put the number of dead at more than 500.

Four Britons die in crash

Dubai (AP) - Four Britons were killed and one was seriously injured in a car accident at the gateway of the Sharjah emirate, police reported.

The five, all long distance lorry drivers, were driving a small car when they smashed into a railing across a roundabout between Dubai and Sharjah. The injured Briton was identified as Alan Jackson, while those killed were named as Albert James Lawden, T. S. Irvine, Wilford Griffiths and Roy Battie.

60 jailed in terrorism trial

Turin (Reuters) - Twelve people were sentenced to life imprisonment and 48 received lesser terms after a mass trial of left-wing terrorists charged with murder and other offences. Those accused in the three-month trial were members of the Red Brigades and groups allied with it. Only one of the 61 people charged was acquitted.

Sound of music

New York (Reuters) - Mr Henry Stern, the commissioner of New York City's parks, vowed to continue holding free pop concerts in Central Park despite a mugging rampage after a Diana Ross concert last Friday. "We will not surrender Central Park to hoodlums," he said.

Footbridge toll

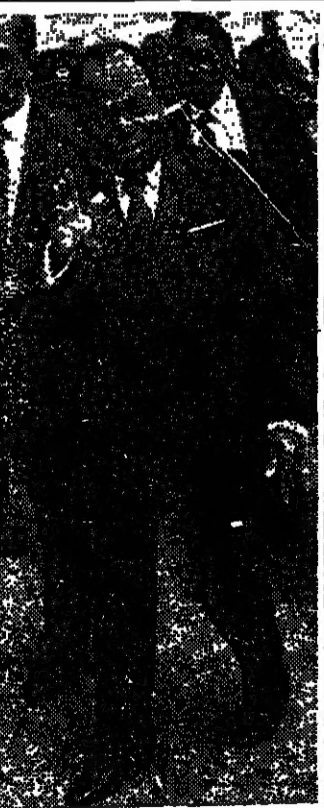
Manila (AP) - A crowded wooden footbridge collapsed into a river near the city of Cebu, killing at least 26 people and injuring 25 others, rescue workers said. Up to 50 were missing.

Russian freed

Rome (Reuters) - Mr Viktor Pronin, a Soviet airline official arrested on spying charges last February, has been given bail. Judicial sources said he could leave jail provided he remained in Italy.

Love pains

Frankfurt (Reuters) - Firemen freed a persistent lover from the chimney of his girl friend's house. Police found the suitor clambering on the roof of his beloved one's house and as they gave chase he fell 75ft down the chimney and broke his leg. He had to be freed by firemen.



President Felix Houphouët-Boigny of the Ivory Coast arrived at Heathrow Airport for an official visit which will include talks with Mrs Margaret Thatcher today.

● A photograph that appeared in Monday's issue of The Times captioned as Mr Houphouët-Boigny was not in fact of him, but had been wrongly supplied to us by an agency.

SHAH WILL NEVER DIE AS HE'S ALWAYS ALIVE IN OUR HEARTS

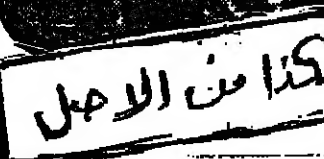
Your Majesty, Reza Shah II, Shah of Iran

Our sincere condolences at the 3rd anniversary of the passing away of your father, the Great Mohamad Reza Shah Pahlavi, Shahanshah Ariamehr, on the 27th July, 1980, whose memory we cherish.

As Your Majesty's loyal subjects, we look forward to the time when it may become possible for you to take up your rightful place as King in our Country, and to restore it to peace and prosperity after the long period of suffering is over.

May God be with you.

ISSUED BY IRANIAN ROYALISTS IN LONDON



THE ARTS

Theatre
An idiom
joyously
relishedCassie McFarlane: a life of
gossip and disconnectionSmile Orange
Tricycle

For the average London spectator, the Tricycle's latest attraction offers as much entertainment as a production in Plautus to the average Hamburger. It is close enough to Home Counties English for anybody to get the slow bits; but as soon as the company start having fun then you are left out in the cold, unless you are at home with West Indian patois.

Trevor Rhone's piece may have been a smash hit at Jamaica's Barn Theatre in 1970, and may rank as a classic farce with its own public. But all I can safely claim for *Smile Orange* is that it points the way to *Family Ties*. Set in a madhouse, the piece is a madhouse in the island's airship. It spends two action-packed hours itemizing all the ills hoteliers are heir to.

Miss Brandon (Cassie McFarlane) on the front desk devotes her life to telephone gossip and cutting off incoming calls. The under-manager lives in a perpetual sweat of officious panic. Cyril, the kitchen boy, obediently obeys everybody in sight and makes a mess of everything he touches. And two waiters, led by the system-beating Ringo, run the place for their own advantage and profit.

Irving Wardle
Awesomely moralBeau Brummell
St James's, Piccadilly

This year's Piccadilly Festival offers, in addition to lunchtime and evening concerts in St James's Church, this entertaining little one-man show staged in the church's Wren Coffee House by its south entrance in Jernyn Street. With the audience at candlelit café tables so close that I hoped we might be offered a pinch of the Brummell snuff, the interior's severe modernity and harsh lighting do not help Paul Alexander, but his confidence and style quickly conquer the environment.

Like a Restoration comedy hero, he enters in *déshabillé*, with a "blue devils" hangover and gout so acute that his toe cannot bear the touch of talc. We then have the fascinating watching of this creature wash, splash, itself with cologne and dress itself, winding the snowy cravat round the specially designed superstarched collar, gradually shuddering the head into it to produce a natural pattern of creases.

Meanwhile he chats of his military career, abandoned in disgust on being posted to Manchester, and the principles of good dress: cleanliness, harmony and lack of ostentation. Then comes Nemesis — gambling debts forcing him to permanent exile in France. A

Anthony Masters

Dance

Light in the dark

Giselle
Festival Hall

Festival Ballet opened its South Bank summer season on Monday with Mary Skeaping's production of *Giselle*. The general view is that this staging is an exemplar of romantic period style, so I must manfully try to suppress my heretical thoughts that it is long-winded, with many irrelevant added details that obscure the main plot, while vital issues such as how Hilarion dies are skipped over.

I hope that before the next performance someone will have found time to put the execrable lighting to rights. A cut-out gauze cloth that should be invisible was ingeniously emphasized all through Act I, and in Act II the dawn passed unnoticed after a night when the alternation of light and dark had been as frequent as it was purposeless.

Several casts are to play the leading roles during the week. Elisabeth Terabust, the first of the Giselles, acted with a touching sincerity and, perhaps more important, an obvious awareness of why things were happening. Some of her footwork was smudgy but her dancing is nicely presented.

Jay Jolley, in his last few

Nigel Hawthorne has just completed his final stint as Permanent Secretary to the Department of Administrative Affairs in the BBC television series *Yes Minister*. Now he is not sure he enjoys the feeling the Royal Shakespeare Company's Barbican headquarters seems to engender in some of its actors of being a "glorified civil servant". He has joined the company to play Orgon in Christopher Hampton's new translation of Molière's *Tartuffe*, directed by Bill Alexander, which opens at the Pit tomorrow. It will not be farcical.

"In the past, audiences have been very suspicious about French plays, and the translators truncated Molière's long and complicated speeches to make them acceptable to English ears," says Hawthorne. "We were concerned that the production should be a genuine version, rather than taking the original idea and turning it into a funny play. It is not in rhyming couplets but blank verse, in order to keep it as near as possible to Molière's words."

"The basis of good comedy is truth, so the more real the situation is, the funnier. You don't need arbitrary business and jokes. Underneath there is an extraordinary emotional situation in which Orgon, an ordinary middle-class family man, has invited into his house a religious nut, who is also a con-man. The more he is warned, the more obstinate he becomes that the man should remain in their lives. When the moment of realization does arrive, it is almost too painful to watch."

Tartuffe is designed to run in repertoire with Bulgakov's *Molière*, which is transferring from the Other Place at Stratford. The Bulgakov play shows *Tartuffe* as a contributory factor in Molière's own downfall, and draws parallels to the artist in any repressive society. Antony Sher, who plays the title roles in both plays, is a compatriot of Hawthorne from South Africa. They lived within four miles of each other in Cape Town, though they rarely talk about it, because they feel estranged from the

country. Hawthorne recently returned there to find, despite window-dressing, the feeling of hopelessness worse than ever.

The reality
of humour

country. Hawthorne recently returned there to find, despite window-dressing, the feeling of hopelessness worse than ever.

It was not the political situation, so much as the need to be an actor, which first brought Hawthorne to England. He worked with Joan Littlewood in the latter days of her time at Stratford East when she was beginning to get disenchanted. Although the magic was there, so was "the other side, which was depressingly careless

and recklessly bad, yet the way she worked and thought remained with me". He became involved in Royal Court productions, as Prince Albert in *Early Morning*, the last Edward Bond play to be banned by the Lord Chamberlain, in other Bond plays, Christopher Hampton's *Total Eclipse* and John Osborne's *A Sense of Detachment*.

However, acclaim really arrived in the Seventies for performances in Michael Frayn's *Clouds*, in which he was a supposedly hard-nosed reporter on a facility trip to Cuba, and Peter Nichols's *Privates on Parade* as Major Flack, the bone-headed commander who lectures the troops on godliness while the Japanese advance on Singapore. He was not in the film of the play — an understandable decision, he says, as at the time of casting it was John Cleese's name that raised the money. But it would have been nice to have been told before it was actually announced in the newspapers.

After *Tartuffe*, plans are undecided. There will only be another *Yes Minister* if the writers, Antony Jay and Jonathan Lynn, feel that they can find a new way of approaching the series, bearing in mind that they have made all the jokes they can about the present situation. It has been a critical and popular success, but neither author wants to go over old ground again.

Now in his mid-fifties, Hawthorne is beginning to question whether he wants to remain in the theatre, which he finds less to his taste than filming. "I keep asking what I am doing dressing up every night, and it all seems a bit silly. I enjoy working for the camera because you are not stuck with it night after night. You don't have to have constant loyalty to it. You can do it once and you don't even have to watch it. I used to love my theatre days, the magic and make-up and pretending, but suddenly these things seem a little empty, and you wonder what you are doing it for. It is like waking up after a nice dream and thinking, now it's daylight I can see through it."

Promenade Concert

Imposing success

BBCSO/Pritchard
Albert Hall/Radio 3

Whether because of the Prommers' traditional adventurousness of spirit, or whether because of the prospect of Beethoven's Fifth Symphony after the interval, there was a very good house on Monday night for the first Prom performance of Alexander Goehr's large-scale choral work *Babylon the great is fallen*. It had been due for a hearing at the Proms in 1980, in the part of the season that was cancelled because of the Musicians' Union dispute.

Perhaps the BBC Symphony Chorus, for whose fiftieth anniversary it was written, has grown in familiarity with the work and confidence in its idiom since the first performance. I found it much more imposing and successful than muted reports of the premiere had suggested.

Goehr's style of choral writing is monumental, but it is also beautifully precise, recalling the scrupulousness of Stravinsky's neo-classical music — a connexion which the Bachian working of the counterpoint makes explicit. Since the premiere, Goehr has added a racy little chorale prelude on "In Gott allein" between the third and fourth movements which gives a much-needed lift

after the 17-minute seriousness of "Ecce ascendimus": with its perky high clarinet, chattering strings and sober trombone chorale, it presents a newly vigorous Goehr.

Elsewhere, the slow tread of the music was calmly, rather effectively projected by Sir John Pritchard's unfussy direction, though some problems of balance, notably the emergence of the choir's "ecce" in the third movement under a blaring brass chord, had not been solved. There are some refreshingly clear, transparent sonorities in the orchestral interludes, though I still feel (as with Goehr's recently performed Psalm 4 trilogy) that the rhythmic profile is not very strong.

Apart from some problems with the machine-gun declamation of "ecce, ecce, ecce" in the first movement, the Symphony Chorus sang with splendid unanimity — the cries of "sciam" in the second movement, which trail whining high woodwind and strings behind them, were vivid.

The most affecting moment, however, was the end. 51 minutes in: from a particularly dense section of choral writing there is a yearning climax on "usque ad summum caeli", a whispered "orate" and a dense chromatic orchestral postlude which fades to an F minor close

Nicholas Kenyon

TEN
SUCCESSFUL
YEARS...

The Annual Report and Accounts of the British Gas Corporation, published on July 26th, covers the tenth complete financial year since the Corporation came into being on January 1st, 1973.

During a decade which saw two international oil crises and far-reaching changes in the pattern of Britain's energy production and consumption, gas has made a vast and increasing contribution to the nation's energy needs and economic well-being.

GROWING SHARE OF ENERGY MARKET

Gas sales are almost 50 per cent higher than they were at the start of the decade, and gas now supplies over 40 per cent of all the heat used in Britain (excluding fuel used for transport). Over 2 million more households have gas now compared with ten years ago; more than half of all domestic gas customers now have central heating; and the fact that the gas share of the domestic fuel market is now over 56 per cent is evidence of a major advance in the standards of comfort enjoyed by British people generally in their homes. In the industrial and commercial markets, too, the popularity of gas has increased — roughly a third of all the heat used by industry and business is now supplied by gas.

INVESTMENT AND EXPLORATION—AND BENEFITS
FOR BRITISH INDUSTRY

The massive investment required to meet the growing demand for gas is entirely self-financed. Some £4,000 million will be spent over the next five years — providing much-needed business for British firms, and creating many thousands of jobs. This year, the gas people are mounting an ambitious exploration programme, with five separate drilling rigs in operation — and every confidence that new discoveries will be made.

The biggest single gas project is the development of the Morecambe Bay gas field off the

Lancashire coast. Capital investment of £525 million to March 31 represents about half of what is needed to develop the field, and over 80 per cent of this huge sum has gone on contracts with British firms.

PROFITS FOR BRITAIN

British Gas made a current cost operating profit of £663 million in 1982/3, and the Corporation has exceeded the minimum financial target set by the Government. It also bettered the performance target agreed with the Government by reducing its net trading costs in real terms.

Much of the profit will be ploughed back into the business and thus ensure customers' gas supplies and services into the future. But a considerable sum is set aside to pay Corporation Tax and, with the cost of the gas levy and other taxes, payments to the Treasury totalled £667 million in the last financial year.

THE FUTURE

The most important benefit that British Gas activities bring is the provision of reliable, efficient, environmentally acceptable and competitively-priced energy supplies.

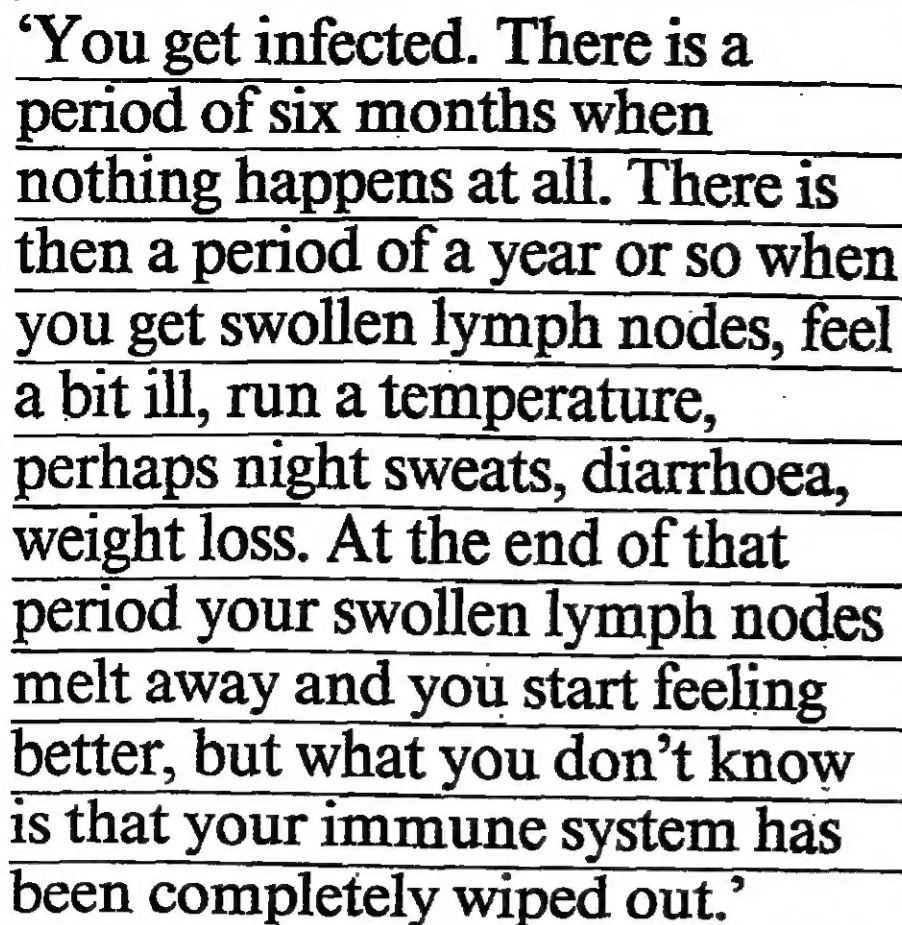
The gas people's investment, research and exploration programmes will help to ensure the continued availability of clean, controllable gas far into the future—for the good not only of customers, but of the nation as a whole.

	1973/74	1982/83	
Sales of gas (million therms)	11,487	16,463	+ 4,976
Number of customers	13,532,000	15,821,000	+ 2,289,000
Number of employees	103,400	103,300	— 100
Therms sold per employee	111,100	159,400	+ 48,300
Customers per employee	131	153	+ 22

...FROM THE GAS PEOPLE

BRITISH GAS

NASTASSIA KINSKI TERI GARR
and FREDERIC FORREST in
One from the heart
A film by FRANCIS COPPOLA
Music by JOHN WILLIAMS
"At the end all you want to do is
watch it over again" Richard Cook N.M.E.
Lumiere Cinema 836 0691



by Duncan Fallowell

Rupert Scott

صبرنا من الاجل

JOANNA LUMLEY'S DIARY

Le hot club de Londres

Maxim's opened its London doors with a flourish on a sweltering Tuesday evening. Gareth Hunt and I, the last two Avengers, tricked up to the ninth, park without ceremony round the corner and press through the crowds and police on foot.

At the door we are handed butenholes, teeth flashing, cameras clicking, and we stop in. What! Denser than a Brazilian jungle, hotter than a Madras vindaloo, darker than a storm, the air conditioning has packed up with first night nerves, and the glamorous glitterati are thrashing about in the most expensive sauna in town. Shoulder to shoulder, our silks and pique will and cease, our newly applied make-up slates down our chins in droplets like butter. More people are pouring in and we are eased further into the scalding interior, where the noise is that of an engine room.

Three people are grouped strangely on the dance floor, eyes closed, a slight breeze playing on their damp skulls: they have found the only air vent in the building and though they sway like reeds in a river, jostled by the dripping and desperate guests, they will not give up their coveted position. As a privileged person, I am allowed upstairs to view the large half-finished private dining-rooms. I have eaten in the Paris Maxim's only once, but it appears that this one is an exact copy. On the walls, languid nymphs smile in lily ponds. Moisture is the order of the day.



We have two days to film an interview with Dame Flora Robson in Brighton. (At the station, we get the taxi driver the address: "Oh, you're going to see Dame Flora", he says.) After the first day, I lean on the window sill of my hotel room and look out on the pier, the second of Brighton's great prizes. Two boys are sticking up the green and white striped deckchairs in the promenade. They are shirtless and their backs are a Mediterranean bronze.

They have worked out a fool-proof, labour-saving method of collapsing the chairs: kick, split, lift. They have six, which they pole neatly on to a low wooden platform before going back for the next lot. They are working swiftly from the ends of a long line of chairs, deserted but for the middle two. As they race towards, two elderly women rise with thinly controlled terror and scramble for safety. By the time they reach the pavement's edge, all the deck-chairs have gone.

Twice to Brighton in one week - how funny. Usually I don't manage to get there more than once in three years. The second time is a train ride commemorating 50 years of electrification of the Brighton Line. We board the train at London Bridge: giant Disney figures, 40 children invited by British Rail and the Variety Club, a happy horde of journalists and a film crew. We leave exactly on time, and arrive in Brighton 41 minutes later, having broken the record for crisp-talking, balloon-bursting and covering the distance.

A brass band is playing on the platform; the Mayor and the Town Crier assist us on to open air buses and we trundle down to the Fun Fair. We have free rides on everything (but I dare to go only on the Big Wheel, and even that knocks it out of me). Then on a tiny train along the sea front to the Aquarium, where three dolphins leap and balance and dive for our entertainment. I am asked to be kissed by a dolphin for a photograph. Having watched carefully, I know how it's done: slap the water to get their attention, kneel leaning over the pool and point to your lips, and

Big soufflés, enough for say six to eight, are not really a practical proposition. On this scale the outside in inevitably overdone before the middle is warm, let alone cooked. And the alternative, individual soufflés, can only be tackled by those who have enough small soufflé dishes and an oven with unusually even heat distribution.

A hot cheese roulade is not quite as puffy and unstable, but it is just as festive looking. Fillings can be varied to suit the occasion - cottage cheese and herbs for a light lunch, cream cheese and shellfish to begin a richer or posher meal. Cheese and seafood roulade Serves six to eight

30 g (1 oz) butter
30 g (1 oz) plain flour
300 ml (1 pint) milk
55 g (2 oz) freshly grated Parmesan
5 eggs, separated
Salt and cayenne pepper
For the filling
225 to 340 g (8 to 12 oz) cooked fish or shellfish
225 g (8 oz) cream cheese
2 tablespoons finely chopped parsley

suddenly whoosh! a great shape hurtles out of the deep and gently bumps your mouth with its snout. Then a reward of half a mackerel tossed into the smiling jaws: the big head turns sideways as the wise eye appraises you. We board the open air buses to travel to the Civic Centre for lunch. Disaster strikes. As we travel round the one-way system past a multi-storey car park, some of the children are hit by eggs thrown from the fourth floor. There is weeping, some of the children are hurt and all are shocked. Looking up, I see three or four boys leaning over the parapet. Now, there are voices who will say that society has compelled these lads to cast eggs from great heights on to unsuspecting children. I am not one of them, and if Marie the photographer and I had been on foot, we should have given chase and given them a bit of thrashing to show them the error of their ways.

The bottom of my last bikini remained floating placidly on the surface of the swimming-pool as I dived neatly into the water and out of it. Upon inspection, the elastic had perished in the fierce Malindi sun. With Creta beckoning this week, it is time for new togs.



In the large department store where I nosed some out like truffles, I found I had to try them on furtively in a large crowded chamber. The first one was just a series of coloured strings and eye-patches; the second grasped my chest like a deadly black tourniquet, rendering my torso breathless and unappealing. I have now borrowed Sarah's instead.

By 10.30 am, at Guildhall, fantastically decorated Sunshine Coaches stand around the forecourt; clowns and roller-skaters gambol, small children in wigs and false noses, like escapees from an overstepped circus, line the route to the dais where the Prince and Princess of Wales will give out prizes. Inside, the effigies of Gog and Magog, like sheep in wolves' clothing, stare down as the 700 place settings are arranged and rearranged in the cool dim hall. In the sunny courtyard, the soldiers of the Scots Guards prepare bangers, beans and mash on trestle tables for 300 children. A thousand secret, silent questions: will they talk to me? Eyes shaded, peering for the royal car - have they arrived yet? and



what will the princess wear? The band plays on, the excitement grows. Children in wheelchairs are propped up, costumes adjusted, hats clamped on firmly; the press photographers check their cameras, organizers check their lists, women check their make-up ("what if I had lipstick on my teeth and they stopped to talk to ME?"). We strike up nonchalant conversations, eyes darting like minnows to the gateway. Inside, 600 people have been seated according to their invitations for pre-lunch drinks: extremely grand to the crypt, and pretty grand, but with less chance of bumping into Them, in the library. Wrist watches are shaken and examined: it is 11.30 am. Suddenly, the royal car sweeps in and the great day begins.

1 tablespoon finely chopped dill
Salt and cayenne pepper
2 tablespoons melted butter
2 tablespoons freshly grated Parmesan
Generously oil or butter a swiss-roll tin about 30 cm by 35 cm (12 in by 14 in). Line it neatly with greaseproof paper or baking parchment and oil or butter that well too.

Melt the butter in a saucepan and stir in the flour. Cook the roux for a minute or two without allowing it to colour, then gradually add the milk, stirring constantly over a low heat to make a smooth sauce. Stir in the grated cheese and cook the sauce until it has melted completely then remove it from the heat. Beat in the egg yolks one at a time and season the sauce generously with salt and cayenne pepper. Whites until they hold stiff peaks and fold the meringue into the cheese sauce. Turn the mixture into the prepared tin and spread it evenly. Bake the mixture in a preheated moderate oven (180°C/350°F, gas mark 4) for about 15 minutes, or until it is just firm. As soon as it is out of the

Rusheen Wynn-Jones was once described as 'A bunch of flowers on top of a volcano'. She talks to Penny Perrick

Penny Perrick

The lady is a champ

Rusheen, Lady Wynne-Jones's first name, lends itself to some ghastly puns - 'fools Rusheen', 'always Rusheen about' - that sort of thing. In fact, Rusheen is the anglicised version of *Rusulka*, the Russian word for water nymph. And since, as a result of Rusheen treading where angels fear to, London's waterside is in much better shape than it would otherwise have been, she is perfectly named.

On the back of the lavatory door of her Chelsea flat is a drawing of the Green Giant, the appalling office block that would now be blotting out the sunset at Vauxhall had Rusheen not put a stop to it. This was perhaps her greatest riverside victory, for the Green Giant project was organized on the sly, the public enquiry held at Brixton Town Hall over the Christmas recess. Rusheen heard about it only because, as a law student, she had helped people with eviction problems and some of the Vauxhall tenants appealed to her. "They kept on talking about something called the Green Giant and I thought they must be drunk because I didn't know what they were talking about." Once she found out what was going on, she swept into the inquiry, a wondrous sight with her shaggy blonde hair wound about with a thick plait and her lovely pink and white complexion.

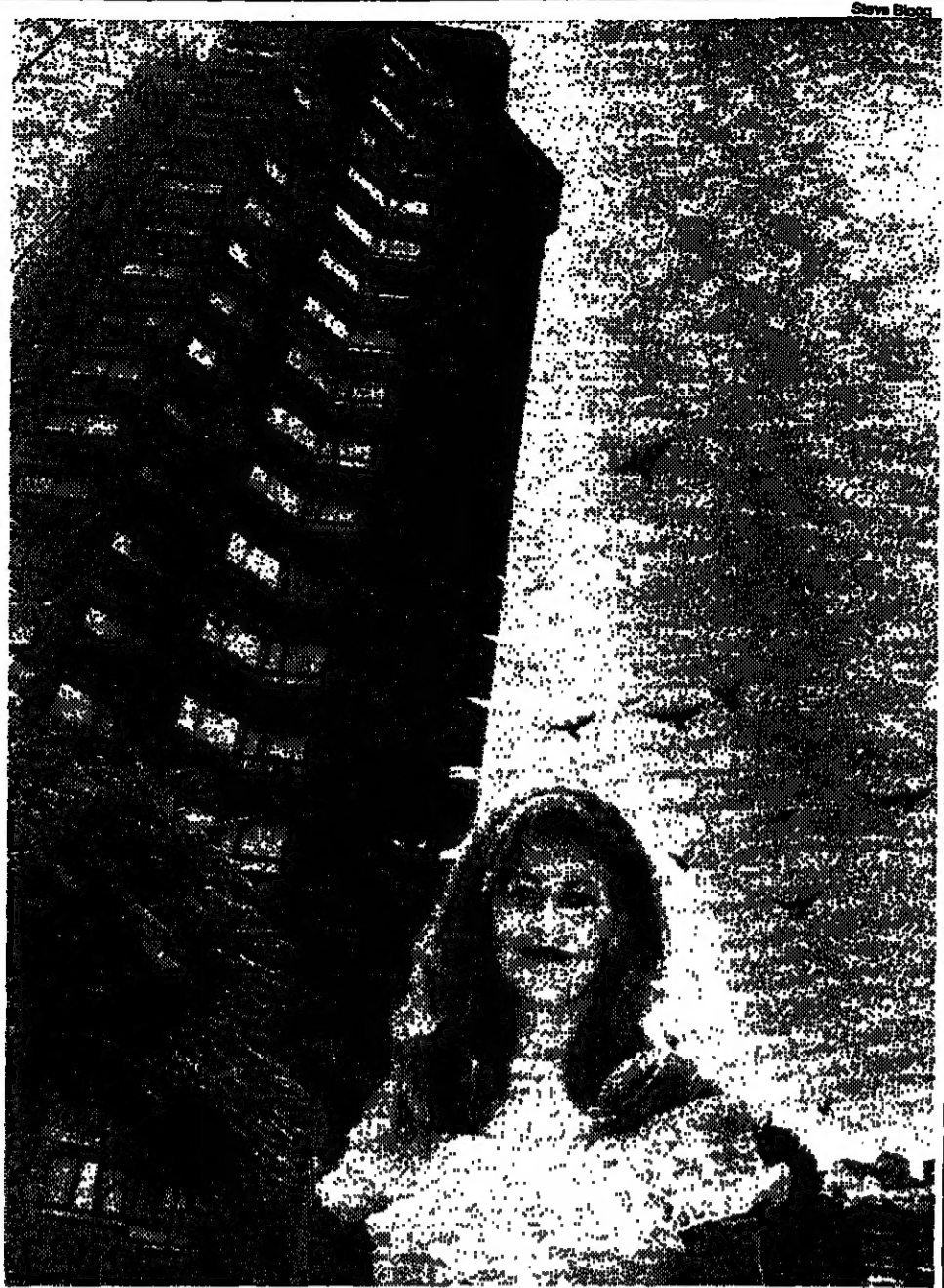
Against her was George Dobry, QC, a brilliant lawyer who Rusheen, the law student much admired but who, nonetheless, she insulted so roundly that the inquiry had, on occasion, to be tactfully adjourned for lunch. By chance, at a party, Rusheen heard that the Green Giant was going to be given the go-ahead. She leaked the news to *The Times*, which she thinks, made Michael Heseltine, then Minister for the Environment, so cross that he reversed the decision.

It was after the Green Giant triumph that her late husband, Lord Wynne-Jones, said, "Rusheen, that's enough, you've got to have a qualification." They had married in 1972 when Rusheen was 24 and her husband over 70. "My flat had just burned down and I thought it might be someone out to get me because I'd done a lot of work helping political prisoners. My husband, who was the kindest man in the world, married me to keep me out of harm's way. He thought his title would give me protection."

Knowing that she would eventually have to fend for herself, he was 'anxious for her to qualify as a lawyer. Nothing would have pleased Rusheen more. She has wanted to be a barrister since the age of 15 but other things got in her way. Even so, she managed to pass two A-levels with A grades in six months and hopes to take her Bar finals next year.

Along the way, she failed the Revenue Law examinations because it coincided with the battle of the Marston battle. This concerned the college of St Mark and St John, rich in historical and literary associations and straddling a pretty stretch of grassland between the King's and Fulham roads, this too was designated for office building until Rusheen, in her role

Lady Wynne-Jones against her least favourite building, the Chelsea Reach Tower estate on Chelsea Embankment.



as honorary secretary of the Friends of Chelsea took up permanent camp outside Michael Heseltine's door, taking as her role model the important widow in the Bible who got what she wanted as a result of pestering.

The fact that the Pheasantry is still standing on its King's Road site is her work, too. "The plans to knock it down had all been passed and, as a last ditch effort, I took the developers to lunch. Sometimes, I believe I lead a charmed life for some. Instinct made me invite Margot Fonteyn along too. The developers turned out not only to be charming men but mad about the ballet and they tore up the plans there and then before our eyes. Without our association, I am convinced that Chelsea would now be a six-lane motorway, Croydon-type skyscraper suburb."

Her latest cause is to stop the desecration of Southwark, the London borough where Shakespeare wrote his greatest plays and which is now the proposed site for a huge Kuwaiti financed mirror-fronted office development. In its stead, she would like to see a permanent Shakespeare festival, providing jobs, profits and a source of pride for the people of London.

Before he died last year, Lord Wynne-Jones introduced a Bill in the House of Lords to make the heart of the capital a special conservation area, such as other capital cities are. There would be an environment council to regulate new developments along the Thames, that precious but unprotected lung of London.

Watching the Thames run sweetly by Rusheen's sitting room windows on a Saturday morning, we decided that London was so neglected and harmed by its administrators because so few, unlike our two selves, were real Londoners.

Come, Friday evening, most leading politicians and top civil servants head for their country cottages. They have no love or appreciation for the quiet, beautiful city of Chaucer, Shakespeare and Dickens, the secret London known only to those of us who live as well as work here, seven days a week.

Knowing little and caring less, no wonder they allow developers to do their worst. Rusheen's solution is for the chairman of the GLC to become Mayor of London and to oversee the special environment council which her husband envisaged. More immediately, she is preparing one of her husband envisaged.

After a year of treatment I clearly wasn't progressing well, but the specialist was still insistent about the remissions. He made it obvious that the problem was due to an over-anxious attitude and that in his opinion my symptoms were not all that bad. I was so confused by the discrepancy between what he was telling me and what was happening that I seriously began to wonder if I hadn't actually had a remission and somehow not recognized it. He almost managed to persuade me that it was all my fault. (I now know from other sufferers that this impression is frequently given to patients with intractable inflammatory bowel disease.) Nevertheless I was wanted a second opinion. Encouraged by my doctor I presented myself at a specialist London hospital. To my great relief, their attitude was entirely different. They stabilized my condition and reassured me that I was not bringing it upon myself. I have remained in their enlightened care ever since.

Although I had two children in the next few years I still felt held back by my disease. I believed that the illness was a temporary interruption and that normal health would soon be resumed.

Cheese on the roulade is within 1cm (1/2 inch) of each edge. Sprinkle it with the chopped herbs and season it with salt and cayenne. Scatter the fish or shellfish evenly over the cream cheese.

Now using the cloth to help fold the roulade, roll it, swirl roll fashion, from one long side to the other.

Lay the roulade on an ovenproof serving dish and brush it with the melted butter. Sprinkle the grated Parmesan over it and bake for another 10 to 15 minutes at (180°C/350°F, gas mark 4). Serve in thick slices on warmed plates.

For a smoked salmon and avocado stuffing, mash the flesh of three ripe avocados and season it generously with lemon juice, cayenne and a little salt. Spread this mixture on the roulade and cover it with 225 g (8oz) smoked salmon cut in slices. Finish as in the previous recipe.

Or try simple cooked fillings like onion rings fried slowly until they are a dark golden brown and very tender, or silvers of apple fried in butter and mixed with toasted almonds. In either case begin with at least 450g (1lb) of onions or apples.

THE TIMES COOK



Shona Crawford Poole

Roll up for cheese

even, cover the roulade with a clean tea cloth, then turn over the tin and cloth together, depositing the roulade on the cloth. Peel off the paper.

To prepare the filling, flake the fish, or break the shellfish into small pieces. Beat the cream cheese until it is smooth, adding a spoonful or two of cream or milk if it is too thick to spread on the delicate soufflé mixture. Spread the cream

cheese pudding is the simplest of old fashioned dishes. It is comforting food - light and tasty and just the thing for lunch or supper when a soufflé would be too much trouble. It is that handy kind of recipe which can as easily be made for one or two as for six. Just double or triple the quantities and increase the baking time. Any well flavoured cheese will do for cheese pudding which can be served on its own or with a crisp salad and crusty bread.

Cheese pudding Serves two to three
110 g (4 oz) sharp cheddar, grated.
55 g (2 oz) fresh breadcrumbs, brown or white.
2 large eggs.
450 ml (1 1/2 pint) milk.
Salt and pepper.
Freshly grated nutmeg to taste.

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COMMENT

We must stop this madness

"You would have a different attitude if you knew your own child's life could be saved by a painful experiment on a living animal." So goes the taunt. My answer is that if my own child's life could be saved by slowly torturing my best friend I might well tell them to go ahead. In other words, I would not be the right person to ask, in those circumstances, what is, or is not, legitimate practice in saving a human life. My judgment would be impaired.

Since happily I am not in that position, it is disgusting to me that animals are caged and then subjected to painful or frightening procedures so that humans may live longer, be more beautiful, smoke more safely or buy more convenient detergents. I have no objection to experiments which do not worry the animals - or even to those which end in humanely inflicted death.

Everyone knows the arguments for and against vivisection in general, so I won't remind them. But there is one class of experiment which is so different from the rest that it cries out for a specific and relentless campaign until it is ended. These are ones associated with psychological stress. For a number of reasons they are especially awful.

First, these experiments are precisely designed to inflict, and then examine, psychological processes like fear, anxiety, isolation, withdrawal, despair - the ingredients of madness. The animals' distress is not a by-product of the experiments - not simply a regrettable but unavoidable feature; it is integral to its purpose. Healthy animals are subjected to such processes as removal when very young from their mother, being kept in solitary confinement, being given electric shocks, being kept awake, being left in water from which they cannot escape, having their brains exposed and stimulated being tortured by extremes of temperatures.

Last year in Britain, more than 25,000 animals were given aversive stimuli, including electric shocks, to see how quickly they learnt to avoid them. Some, of course, never did - and so went painfully mad.

Since these experiments are designed to test distress of some kind, anaesthesia is out of the question.

Since mental illnesses and neuroses associated with stress, parental deprivation and so on are on the increase among humans, we can expect that this will be an expanding field for the behavioural scientists who use animals. Already they are demanding - if necessary breeding - millions of animals specifically for such experiments. If we put a stop to this now, they will be forced to the device research which uses humans - the proper material for the study of human psychology - and cannot therefore involve cruelty. There is already a huge vested interest in this industry; we should seek to diminish it.

The animals most in demand for psychological research are those with highly developed nervous systems and thought processes. In practice this means dogs, cats and especially monkeys. The demand for these is based precisely on their capacity to feel a similar range of emotions to those of humans. Surely it is intolerable that we should subject them to distress on the grounds that their reactions are so like ours.

As a result of recent publicity starting with the "smoking beagles", there is at last a groundswell of public indignation about animal experiments. It is no longer focused only on painful physical experiments. Psychological experiments are a growing proportion of the total. The present Government should stop prevaricating about new legislation over the use of animals. The rest of us should make it clear that we regard experiments inflicting psychological stress - supposedly in our own interests - as morally intolerable, empirically useless and wholly unacceptable.

Margaret Legum

THE TIMES DIARY

All at sea

The most challenging election address of candidates in the Penarth by-election is that of Lieutenant-Commander Eric Morgan. It says of him: "He served in the Great Western Approaches, Battle, after which Doenitz admitted defeat and was awarded the DSC - by post. No party at the Palace! I should think not, indeed. Another sentence says: 'Qualified as a master mariner from 1933, he served in submarines as a specialist until, because of age, he had to resign as an anti-submarine specialist'. You must admit, it is difficult to unravel - and I have not even got to the policies yet."

Teeny talent

"Bop in and meet our new Teenage Talent when we are boogying at the Titanic Club (chink, chink), Berkeley Square, to launch the August Teenage Issue of *Harpers & Queen*. See you on board with the stars. Dress: glitzy." Teenagers were pretty thin on the ground, but I did manage to find one, an opalescent young lady sporting a pink jump suit and a Bucks Fizz, who told me she was 13 years old, a pupil at Bedales and had always wanted to be a journalist. She had contributed six lines about sex to the current issue ("I think I would like to stay a virgin until I am married") and wrote poetry between commissions. I tried and failed to talk her out of wanting to be a journalist. She didn't know what "glitzy" meant either.

Sinking in

About 40 million Chinese, more than the population of Spain, live in caves, and the Government is running a campaign to encourage the practice. Architects and planners are beavering away to help peasants build and improve homes that are officially deemed low cost, energy efficient and consonant with "architectural tradition and ecological balance". There is even a dig-it-yourself scheme, and Jin Oubo, vice president of the Architectural Society of China, looks forward to the day when all mod cons will apply.

● Finnish, according to the English-language magazine of the Finnish tourist board, Look at Finland, has "approximately a thousand words to denote intoxication". Do not mock. We could not pronounce most of them, even when sober.

People's pitch

From Liège, Belgium, those litigious buskers Bongo Mike and Jeremy, who perform as "Gutter Music by the Dossers", who have just passed the rapporteur stage in their efforts to bring the British Government before the European Court of Human Rights on the ground of unfair police harassment, phone to chide me for my recent report of Don Crown and his accident-prone Bunking Buddies in which I referred to Leicester Square as "this pitch". "Leicester Square belongs to everybody", they say.

BARRY FANTONI



Country's gain: to the Isle of Dogs

Royal flush

Even the mind of PHS occasionally boggles at the sheer multiplicity of unrelated events to which this most inconsequential corner of the newspaper is privy. Yesterday, for example, I learned that Wilkinson has designed a "Celebration Sword" as a wedding present for the couple who have everything; that a "Slipping, Tripping and Falling Accidents" conference to be held in Guildford next year is actually the second such (my thanks to *Talkback*, the official magazine of the Back Pain Association); that the Market Research Society has mounted a campaign to stamp out "sugging", door-to-door salesmen posing as market researchers, and best of all that 250 miles of toilet rolls were used during the Royal Show at Stoneleigh... that's 12,000 altogether, or one for every 16 people.



The long lamented large blue butterfly is to be re-established in Britain if the World Wildlife Fund succeeds in its attempt to introduce a Continental strain to suitable habitats here. The project is one of 29 concerning butterfly conservation and such is the charisma of swallowtail, gatekeeper, Duke of Burgundy fritillary and the like that WWF has taken the exceptional step of seeking corporate sponsorship on a project basis rather than the more usual appeals for cash on the grounds that WWF is generally A Good Thing. The large blue can be yours for £20,000; a butterfly survey of Cardigan, on the other hand, is a real snip at £500.

PHS

Paul Routledge on the strike threatening the TUC's credibility

The FT dispute: a family crisis for the unions

Leaders of the National Graphical Association, the print union whose members have halted production of the *Financial Times* for the past eight weeks, will be in the dock this morning at the monthly meeting of the TUC general council. The charge: undermining the credibility of the TUC by refusing to accept a mediator's award that carries the personal imprimatur of Mr Len Murray, the TUC general secretary.

Today's hearing behind closed doors in the council chamber marks the start of a tortuous process of discipline within the labour movement that could end in the suspension or even expulsion of one of the TUC's strongest affiliates.

The 38 members of that most exclusive "club", the general council, will be asked to endorse a recommendation from their so-called "inner cabinet" that the NGA should be advised under the rules governing the conduct of affiliated organizations to accept the report of Mr Andrew Kerr, mediator of the Advisory, Conciliation and Arbitration Service (Acas), which gives no increase in the company's offer of £304 a week for the 22 striking machine minders at the FT.

How is it that the TUC, which exists "to promote the interests of its affiliates and their members", now finds itself in the position of seeking to compel a member union in conflict with an employer to accept a settlement which that union regards as unsatisfactory and contradictory to its previous pay bargaining in the industry?

This question lies at the heart of the constitutional crisis building up within the TUC as a result of Mr Murray's attempt to act as a peacemaker in the jungle of Fleet Street industrial relations. Not for the first time, a newspaper management fell back on the family persuasion skills of the TUC after despairing of solutions to the conflicting claims and counter-claims of manual and craft employees.

But for the first time in the memory of most of the combatants, family discipline has failed and the TUC is caught up in an imbroglio from which it will be difficult to emerge with approval on all sides. If the NGA persists in its recalcitrance,

The men caught up at the heart of the dispute

Mr Charles Miller, aged 35, is the father of the chapel (shop steward) of the machine minders whose £322-a-week claim is at the centre of the stoppage. Mr Miller, a left-wing member of the Labour Party, has been a shop floor activist for some years and is an enthusiastic and knowledgeable trade union historian.

He insists the pay demand is just, but some say he is more concerned that there should be no productivity deals whereby jobs are lost in a period of mass unemployment. He was father of the machine minders' chapel whose dispute at the picture newspaper *Revellita* preceded its closure.

Mr Miller was also an active member of the union at *The Observer* while working as a casual there. Encountering much criticism from management for his militancy, he is respected by his chapel.



The Hon. Alan Victor Hare, 64, chairman and chief executive of the FT, has been criticized over his handling of the affair. Some of his more "hawkish" staff members have wanted him to take a tougher line with the NGA; "doves", however, see no solution other than through negotiation.

Mr Hare is the fourth son of the Fourth Earl of Listowel. Educated at Eton and New College, Oxford, he served with the Irish Guards and the Household Cavalry in the Second World War and later parachuted behind German lines in Albania where he fought for a year with guerrillas.

After the war he served with the British Foreign Services. He joined the *Financial Times* in 1962 and is due to retire next spring. He believes the onus is on the TUC to discipline one of its members.



Mr Joe Wade, general secretary of the National Graphical Association, has underlined his union's traditional independence by defying Mr Murray's insistence that the mediator's report should be respected. Mr Wade, on the right of the Labour Party, has said that he could not foresee circumstances under which his national council would change its mind, even if it meant expulsion or suspension from the TUC. Despite management attempts to provoke a split between the national leaders and the machine minders' chapel, they have thus far shown every outward sign of solidarity. The general secretary has shown himself to be a determined defender of the union's craft status, especially during the long Times stoppage in 1978/79. However, he has recently shown signs of increasing flexibility towards the introduction of new technology.



Mr William Keys, general secretary of the print union Sogat 82, has been a central figure in the dispute. Aged 59, he is chairman of the TUC's printing industry committee and his decisions are crucial to the FT's ambitions to bring out a full print run of the paper without the National Graphical Association if necessary. The NGA men are being asked to accept the traditional 12½ per cent differential on a pay settlement agreed by machine assistant members of Sogat. The NGA argues that the deal was inadequate and that they normally set the pay precedents, not the "unskilled" Sogat members. Mr Keys has said his union would only help to publish a "non-NGA" *Financial Times* if advised to do so by the TUC. A complicating factor is his union's current talks with the NGA over a merger. His dream is of one printing union.

The Dalai Lama, a Chinese puzzle

The Dalai Lama is considering a muted Chinese invitation to visit Tibet within the next two years. But his conditions may be too stiff for Peking.

In London, for his 48th birthday this month, the exiled Dalai Lama's representatives disclosed the terms for a return that would make Pope John Paul's first visit to his native Poland look like a quick trip to the country. If the Chinese accept these terms - for freedom of speech and action - they will risk abandoning their claim that the Tibet Autonomous Region is an integral part of the People's Republic.

The stakes are high. Tibet is not Shangri-la and the Dalai Lama is more than an agreeable mystic imagined by some to be more than 2,000 years old. For the Chinese, Tibet is their largest piece of territory, and of central strategic importance. For the international community, however, Tibet is the panda among nations: unique, exotic, harmless - and endangered by the single great example of communist Chinese aggression.

The Chinese, therefore, are attempting to win universal favour by luring the Dalai Lama to Tibet, but not as the restored leader. For his part, the man said to be the 56th Reincarnation of the Compassionate Buddha and the 14th Dalai Lama is thinking of going home, but not as a returning Chinese citizen.

The Dalai Lama is believed by his followers to be the supreme spiritual and temporal figure of an independent country. The Chinese see him as a Tibetan religious leader. Suggestions of anything more are derided as impudence and pretension, and dismissed as ignorance of Tibet's traditional subservience to China.

But whereas Chinese emperors operating over vast distances could not enforce their Tibetan suzerainty, since the 1950 communist "liberation", Peking has backed its directives in Tibet with full military occupation. In 1980, party chairman Hu Yaobang journeyed to Lhasa to apologize publicly for Chinese misrule, especially during the Cultural Revolution, 1966-1976. Then all but a dozen of the region's more than 2,000 monas-



The Dalai Lama: a nightmare for Peking?

tries were destroyed and Buddhism and the Tibetan written language proscribed. It is now admitted that forbidding the cultivation of barley brought tens of thousands of Tibetans to the edge of starvation.

Now Peking regrets the Maoist heavy hand. Its census figures, said to number 250,000 (Tibet's population is under 2 million) keeps close to barracks, and Chinese officials, who do not bother to conceal their distaste for local

religion, food, and personal habits, are at last learning Tibetan. "Of course Tibet isn't really Chinese," one of these cadres told me. "It's important strategically. We've got to keep the Russians and the Indians out. And US missile bases."

The problem for Peking, then, is how to woo the Dalai Lama without weakening China's sovereignty. A number of the Dalai Lama's delegations, including one in 1980

led by his younger sister, have been permitted to tour Tibet.

The delegates were mobbed. Tibetans prostrated themselves and begged blessings. The Chinese were stunned by such loyalty to a personage they had portrayed as a feudal despot.

Last year, the Dalai Lama showed that he, too, is flexible. "If the Chinese can bring more happiness to the Tibetans than their own leaders," he told me, "then, theoretically, I'd prefer it that way."

But the Dalai Lama is more than the Compassionate Buddha. An astute politician, he possesses a great weapon which can be used only once: his absence from Tibet. Both he and his followers, especially the younger, more articulate ones abroad, know that even a brief return to Tibet could turn into the greatest public relations windfall for China since 1972 when Richard Nixon shook hands in Peking with Mao Zedong.

The Dalai Lama's entourage is determined that this visit, if it occurs, must not legitimize Chinese claims to Tibet. Hence the stringent opening terms: freedom of speech and action for the Dalai Lama and his safety guaranteed in advance. Tibetans who speak to him shall not be penalized when he departs, a reference to what happened after his sister's 1980 visit. Observers and journalists with him must be free to report what they see and hear.

These daunting conditions for Peking do not, as yet, include the specific title under which the Dalai Lama might accept an invitation. Tibetans who return to their homeland nowadays carry a document issued by Peking identifying them as Chinese who live abroad. This would hardly do.

Here is Peking's nightmare: the 14th Dalai Lama, some day on the glittering roof of his old palace, the Potala, surrounded by a ring of international correspondents and TV crews. He tells them modestly, "I have returned. It is time for the Chinese to depart."

Jonathan Mirsky

© The New York Times, 1983

James Curran

The Tories' own militant tendency

Nothing reveals more clearly the Victorian hubbub of this Government than its proposals for reform of the trade unions. Before seeking to democratize the unions, Conservative politicians should put their own house in order.

This point is made embarrassingly but effectively by a pressure group within the Conservative Party, the Set the Party Free (SPF) Charter Movement. It is urging the adoption of new democratic procedures within the Conservative Party including the election of national officers, an elected governing body, an elected policy committee and the democratic selection and reselection of parliamentary candidates.

Already SPF has displayed some of the flair that enabled another pressure group, the Campaign for Labour Party Democracy, to turn the Labour Party upside down. At last year's conference SPF organized a mock ballot to elect the undemocratically appointed party chairman - and persuaded a third of the representatives to take part in "the election". This has been followed by the publication of *Democracy in Political Parties*, one of the most effective political pamphlets I have read in years.

SPF's task is, of course, much more difficult than that of Labour counterpart. The Conservatives lack the emotional attachment to democracy and representative tradition of the Labour Party. After all it was not until 1965 that the first Conservative leader was elected by a democratic ballot of MPs. Even now the Conservative leader is able to exercise an autocratic authority within the party through untrammelled powers of appointment and patronage that make the most authoritarian union ayatollah (such as the present chairman of the TUC) seem like a submissive cunuch.

But although it will be difficult for SPF to make headway against the entrenched power of the Conservative leadership it has already won the intellectual argument within the party. This is illustrated by the Government's proposals for reform of the trade unions. When read as if they refer to the Conservative Party, they are a powerful endorsement of SPF's case.

Consider, for example these excerpts from the Green and White papers on trade union democracy amended (shown in italics) to relate to the Conservative Party.

"In the case of the *Conservative Party*, the role and influence of the White Paper, so that 'each *Conservative Party* member must be able to vote directly for members of the governing body' (Para. 3).

"Regrettably it needs to be noted that the rules of the *National Union of Conservative and Unionist Associations* do not provide for direct elections by the members for the candidates of their choice for the *National Union Executive Committee*" (Para. 28). The National

Union Executive Committee does not in any real sense govern the party, which is effectively controlled by officers appointed by the leader.

But the part of the Government's Green Paper which would send a chill down the spine of most Conservative MPs if it were applied to their own organizations, is that which deals with the democratic reselection of representatives. "The question of the basis for the exercise of representative authority arises at every level of the *Conservative Party's* structures... the *MP* may have performed that role for a great many years without the members he represents ever questioning whether he should continue to do so and consequently without the question ever being put to them in a formal way."

Of course the Government does not take its own arguments entirely seriously. It has no intention of extending the reforming principles that it is applying to trade unions to other far less democratic institutions. It does not intend, for example, to give workers the right to determine who manages their pension funds, or even to establish basic rights of information, consultation and representation in private or public corporations. Nor will the Government require a ballot of shareholders of workers before companies contribute donations to the Conservative Party.

It is merely muzzling a set of arguments that enable it to mount a further attack on the unions. Buried in this attack is a dagger pointing straight at the heart of Labour: the new proposals will shrink both union political funding and affiliated membership of the party. But opponents should not be provoked into a knee-jerk reaction to all Norman Tebbit's proposals. Direct election of union officers and secret ballots before strikes (though this should be combined with ballots for ending strikes) are desirable in those unions where it does not already happen. Democratic ballots for the retention of union political funds are also right in principle, however uncomfortable the consequences.

The more controversial part of the Government's case is that society has the right to set the ground rules for the democratic functioning of key institutions in society. Though this is rejected by the TUC, it is a perfectly reasonable argument. Indeed it should become the rationale for the democratic reform of a wide variety of institutions, from the media to the judiciary. One task of a future Labour government may even be, to paraphrase Norman Tebbit: "To give the Conservative back to its members."

"*Democracy in Political Parties*. Available from Set the Party Free, 91 Bury Street, London, N.9. The author is editor of *New Socialist*.

Anne Sofer

Cutting back on the big spenders

One of the priorities the Government has set itself for its first session is to "deal with" local government spending. Menace, threat, bribe and blackmail having failed to curb what are regarded as the excesses of that clutch of Labour councils, mainly in London, who persistently spend above government targets, local democracy is now to be wound up.

The Government will give itself total power to control spending, and fix a ceiling on the rates. If you live in the area of one of those councils and depend on its services you may be in for a rough ride and it won't be a bit funny. But if you do not, then prepare for the best live political knock-about farce you have seen for a long time. It will leave *Yes Minister* and *Anybody for Den* standing. And it will run and run.

The trailer will come with the rate-fixing for the next financial year (1984-5) in the spring. The legislation will not yet have been passed, but there will be plenty of shadow-boxing: grim warnings from the Secretary of State, self-righteous defiance from the Labour Councils. In opposite corners: Ken Livingstone and Patrick Jenkin. Frances Morris and Margaret Thatcher. What a fight! What a spectacle!

The action will really start when we come to the budget planning for the following financial year (1985-6), with the new legislation in place. The councils will announce their budgets: continued expansion. The government will demand a lower figure. Then we come to an intriguing question. Who decides what the figure will be? Will the figures go to Cabinet? "Good God, Patrick, you can't let Islington get away with such a small reduction."

Or will the figures be determined by an abstruse formula run through a Whitehall computer? (If $x = 1981-2$ output, and $y =$ social deprivation indices weighted by a formula of .17 for every 1,000 single grandparents and every 53 houses without a washing machine, $r =$ the outstanding debt, and $q =$ the total of councillors' attendance allowances in the last financial year, then the budget shall be

$$Z = \frac{x + y + r + q}{100}$$

The trouble with such formulas is that the results are always politically embarrassing. A council widely publicized by the popular press as a notorious overspender turns out to be below target, and an unobtrusive Tory council that has been quietly minding its own business and providing good services suddenly bobs up as an over-spender.

So probably the decision will be made by civil servants "taking soundings" and "using their judgment". All the chief executives of the erring councils will be called up to the Department of the Environment and pumped.

This is where we get into an exciting game of Chinese Whispers, with four players: the councillors, their officers, the DOE civil servants, and the Minister. "Well, Leader," the chief executive will say when he gets back to the town hall (in strictest confidence, of course, he knows, and the leader knows, that the leader will be instantly stripped of office and flurled out of the Labour Group if there is any suspicion he is treating with the enemy). "I understand from Sir Humphrey that the Minister is of a mind to let us off with only £10m if we don't make a fuss."

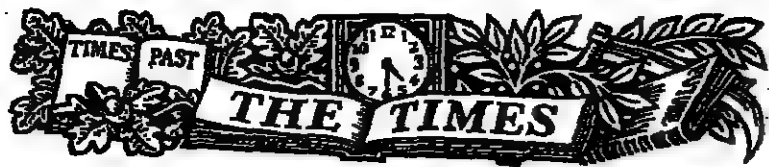
It is possible, of course, that overspending councils will not even be allowed to choose where they make reductions. The whole budget will be called in and the Minister or his civil servants will make the reductions. I can just see the letter. "Dear Councillor Thugg, We have decided that in the next financial year you will save x million pounds by privatizing meals on wheels and mortuary services, closing the polytechnics peace studies course, freezing all social studies teaching vacancies and ending all grants to voluntary organizations except the Scouts and the drum majorettes."

As budget day approaches in early 1985, groups of defiant Labour councillors will start hunger strikes on the roofs of their respective town halls, the People's War against Fascist Rate-capping will be declared and the commissioners will be called in.

..... The final scene. Some weeks later. The commissioner, distraught and near breaking point, on the phone to the permanent secretary: "Look, you've no idea how impossible things are. I've had the Parents Action Campaign camping in my outer office for five days... I have to get their permission to go to the loo! And then to get there I have to walk over the Caretakers against Capping who are having a tie-in in the corridor. I'm trying, but it just can't be done. Not all at once. Yes, of course I've stopped the youth clubs and the day care centres. I've even closed half the swimming pools - but we've still got 8 million to come off! It's desperate....."

The author is the SDP member of the GLC and *Hea for Camden, St Pancras North*.

سكنا من الامم



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PARENTS AND THE PILL

When a girl who is under sixteen presents herself at a clinic or surgery and asks for the pill the situation of the doctor is both less and more than medical. It is less than medical because the dispensing of contraceptives is a function he shares with chemists, barbers' shops and vending machines. The girl is there rather than elsewhere because the type of contraceptive she is looking for is one that is properly classified among the drugs that can be had only on a doctor's prescription. Only in the Republic of Ireland are all contraceptive devices supposedly on medical prescription, not because of the advanced state of Irish medicine but for the purpose of social control.

The doctor's situation is more than medical because the advice he gives and the treatment he offers impinge directly on the child's sexual and emotional development and moral perceptions, and therefore on her welfare in a sensitive and fundamental respect. It was Mrs Gillick's contention, in the law suit she has just lost, that by acting in that way quite independently of a child's parents doctors make a gross invasion of parents' final responsibility for the moral upbringing and general welfare of their children.

Several issues fell to be decided in her action. It was argued for Mrs Gillick that since sexual intercourse with a girl who is under sixteen is a criminal offence (for the man, not for the girl) prescribing contraceptives for such an encounter would itself be tainted with criminality. The judge allowed that that would be the case if a doctor "were misguided enough" to provide contraceptive advice and assistance to a girl under sixteen or a man "with the intention thereby of encouraging them to have sexual intercourse": the doctor would be an accessory to the offence.

The judge assumed however that that would not usually be the attitude of the doctor.

Despite being firmly against the commission of unlawful sexual intercourse, the doctor might suppose that intercourse would nevertheless take place and conclude that the provision of contraceptives would be in the best interests of the girl in protecting her from an unwanted pregnancy and reducing the risk of venereal disease. The pill would be seen not as an instrument of a crime, but a palliative against its consequence. The law would exonerate the doctor.

Some such distinction in law conforms to present-day social requirements. The elements of the accessory charge outlined by the judge might - just - bite on officious missionaries of sexual liberation when they preach among children, which would be a good thing. Yet, when presented with the fact of a fixed sexual liaison or habitual promiscuity of an under-age girl, presumed to be impervious to the entreaties or reproaches of her elders, it would not do that doctors should be prohibited from providing contraception by an extended application of the Sexual Offences Act.

It also fell to be decided whether a girl under sixteen is legally capable of giving consent to medical treatment. The question has not been ruled upon before. No statute decides it. The judge declined to be absolute. The fact of her age, he said, does not automatically mean that she cannot give her consent to any treatment. It would depend on the child's maturity and understanding and the nature of the treatment. This preservation of a discretion answers to the limitless variation of human situations, personalities and relationships within similar contexts. But it lays a heavy responsibility of right judgment - on doctors once again - in circumstances where it will not be easy for them to become acquainted with all the factors on which the judgment should be based.

It is at that point that uneasiness with the outcome of this case stirs. Medical and administrative practice, now upheld by the law, admits the substitution of the doctor's judgment for the parents' judgment in certain classes of case concerning the moral and emotional development of the child. The parent who turned to the law to vindicate her responsibility for the welfare of her children has been told that the law can be of no assistance, though she is assured that it is most unlikely there would be any interference of the sort in her own family.

The reason of public interest that stands behind this interference derives from the fact that there are an appreciable number of girls under sixteen who have sexual intercourse and some of them are not amenable to the dissuasion of their parents, or probably of any other counsellor, and that it is better that they should receive contraceptive advice and treatment than that they should be exposed to the consequence of pregnancy and a possibly greater risk of venereal disease. And the reason the parents are not invariably brought into it is that those girls who hate the idea of their parents knowing would not seek medical advice if its customary confidentiality were suspended.

The balance of interest lies in making room for a doctor to act in exceptional cases at his own clinical discretion and without the consent of parents. But that reservation should be accompanied by firmer guidance and practice within health authorities and within the medical profession to ensure that these are indeed exceptional cases. The responsibility of parents for the moral and physical welfare of their children needs to be even more explicitly acknowledged in the official guidance and more consistently respected in the practice adopted towards sexually precocious children and their possible introduction to contraceptives.

LONDON TRANSPORT'S FALLING DOWN

"Londoners became proud of 'our buses and tubes', after they were taken into public ownership in the early 1930s, Herbert Morrison claimed in his autobiography. 'I am sorry to see how this good will has for some reason declined in recent years.' That was in 1960. A quarter century on, after the transfer of London Transport to the Greater London Council, after 'fares fair' the good will still declines.

Now Mr Tom King, the Secretary of State for Transport, whose white paper was published yesterday, promises a new start, a restoration of that Morrisonian good will.

He disappoints. Here in his plans is not what might have been expected from a government that - in other nationalized industries - is sanguine about bringing in private capital. Private capital built the District and the Metropolitan Lines; private capital financed the switch from horse-drawn to petrol-driven buses; is there no role for it now? Mr King seems all too content to accept the regulatory bureaucratic framework of Traffic Commissioners and the impediments they build to competition even at the

margins of the LT service. (Can a white paper on London Transport seriously ignore the whole issue of taxi-cabs and their regulation?)

With privatization neglected, does Mr King choose full-blown Morrisonianism, adapted to the conditions of the 1980s - a doctrine which would surely advocate not merely marriage of the LT network with British Rail's London and South Eastern routes but would recognize that the planning of the roads cannot be separate? The GLC may have served its term as a representative body but the case for its function of strategic transport planning - linking the volume of private road traffic to bus and train use - is still strong.

Mr King offers a stop-gap which looks in part like nothing more than a hasty effort to wrest London Transport from the clutches of Mr Livingstone and his colleagues at County Hall. The most serious omission is finance. The majority of Londoners care little about the detail of public administration and, sadly, about representative self government; they do care about fares and levels of service. Mr King's duty in this white paper

was to tell the public some hard facts of life about subsidizing public transport in an aging city with Edwardian tunnels and a pattern of movement that brings commuters in daily from the greenward of far Kent and Essex.

At present some £650 million of public money is paid to keep down LT and British Rail fares. Abolishing the GLC will not abolish the choice: either the inhabitants of London pay a good proportion of that through a local tax (at present the rates collected by the GLC) or they sponge on the taxpayers of the nation at large. Mr King hints at giving his new transport quango powers to raise a precept - taxation without representation at its crudest, since the quango will contain no elected members. And yet. The public would forgive Mr King and his successors for taking Mussolini's powers if they cleaned the stations and made the trains run on time. However, to achieve that Mr King must guarantee large and continuing levels of public investment. In a month when Mr Lawson is breathing down every spender's neck, Mr King is dead silent on the sources of that capital.

SURVIVAL SI, SUCCESS NO

It is 30 years since Fidel Castro attacked the Moncada Barracks in Santiago de Cuba, his first spectacular move in a long career of revolutionary voluntarism. He has now been in power for nearly 25 years. He was the first Latin American to discover Marxism-Leninism to be an unbeatable justification for staying in power, and to install with it the Soviet apparatus that supports the justification. The Soviet Union has supported its economy, and the United States has conveniently relieved him of hundreds of thousands of opponents and undesirables. His spell is still potent. The prospect of 'other Cubas' that disturb the United States in Central America. As certainly as Che Guevara was a great poster, Castro has been a great survivor.

Even the credulous - and Castro has been the beneficiary outside his island of more credibility than any other leader of his time - no longer argue that the Cuban economy is a success or is on the verge of success. The fantasies of the "new man" responding to "moral incentives", the 10 million ton sugar harvest, the multiple varieties of tropical cheese are figments past. Cuba suffers from the de-

ficiencies of Soviet planning, made worse by the unfamiliar milieu and from the vagaries of the world market. One third of Cuban trade is outside Comecon, and is depressed. The island has also a substantial foreign debt. The domestic achievements of the regime no longer excite the same enthusiasm as they did in the sixties, and against them have to be balanced repression, uniformity and rigidity. Cuba will take tourists with dollars, but no longer welcomes the fellow traveller.

Has this disappointing record at home been compensated for by success abroad? With the Kennedy-Khrushchev agreement of 1962, Castro became the first Latin American leader consistently to defy the United States and get away with it; and the first world figure produced by Latin America in the 20th century. He caused the Alliance for Progress, he became a leader of the non-aligned. His troops are in Angola and the Horn of Africa; and his advisers in a score of countries. He is not everywhere seen as a simple puppet of the Soviet Union.

These are achievements. However, the African ventures are not likely to be successfully

repeated; they are expensive and yield diminishing diplomatic returns. Cuban dependence on the Soviet Union can elsewhere be embarrassingly obvious as in her support for the Soviet invasion of Afghanistan. In Latin America, Cuba's strategy of subversion appeared to enjoy little success in the 1970s; there were few opportunities to exploit before the advent of the Sandinistas in Nicaragua.

A long-term settlement in central America may imply either the effective isolation of Cuba or some sort of an agreement with Cuba. "Normalization" of relations with the United States has its disadvantages as well as its advantages. Havana, but isolation and confrontation have their disadvantages too. Castro has indicated to the Contadora Group that he prefers dialogue. Too great a show of enthusiasm from Castro will not make their initiatives more acceptable to the United States, but too intransigent a reaction from Washington will not effectively isolate him: it may even increase his attractions. The 30 year anniversary of Moncada will be marked by more than the usual rhetoric, but the occasion is more than usually significant.

Sharing burden of the recession

From Mr A. E. De Barr
Sir, Sir Terence Beckett and the CBI call for extra cuts in state spending as a means of reducing unemployment of 360,000; otherwise, they say, there is a real danger that taxation will rise. From one point of view they may well be right but what they are, in effect, saying is that unless the spending power of those 360,000 persons and their families is drastically reduced in this way, part of the burden of recession will have to be carried by those still in employment by way of increased taxation.

In the same issue (July 21) you report the steadily growing rise in the living standards of those in work. Why should the whole burden of recession be borne by an unfortunate and, to a large extent, arbitrarily chosen 10 per cent or so of the population? Why, in times of recession, should those fortunate enough to remain in employment not bear increased taxation to help to maintain the living standards of those who have no jobs?

For some people redundancy and unemployment may provide the incentive to start up the new, small, industries upon which the future of our economy seems likely increasingly to depend; for others they may provide the incentive to move into jobs in which they can be more productively employed. It would be a mistake to stimulate by too much cushioning of unemployment, but there seems to be little danger of that.

For most of those unemployed there are just no wealth-producing occupations open, and on moral, social and economic grounds fairer sharing of the burden of recession - aggravated and prolonged as it currently is by the advance of automation - should surely have priority in the plans of any government.

I am, Sir, yours faithfully,
A. E. DE BARR,
82 Rosewood Lane,
Higher Hunsford,
Macclesfield,
Cheshire,
July 22.

New Labour daily

From Mr Reginald Noquet
Sir, There was a significant juxtaposition at the foot of "Letters to the Editor" in last Saturday's issue (July 16).
Mrs Enid Macbeth, of Stock, Essex, asked how a Labour daily would deal with the NGA, and Mr John Colleson of Hanwell, N7 (sic) quoted an amusing misprint. The day before, Mr W. T. Booroff, London Region Secretary of the NGA, sought to defend the union.

In other spheres of commerce and industry than printing, a wage of £304 a week requires a good deal of responsibility to be carried. How, then, do the print unions explain the appalling number of misprints - sometimes whole lines repeated or omitted - in every issue of *The Times*? What has become of the "ancient skills" once cited in support of their handsome pay rates?

One thing is certain: a new Labour daily (very desirable in itself) will not be able to afford their services.
Yours faithfully,
REGINALD NOQUET,
5 Cauldon Crescent,
Swanage,
Dorset,
July 20.

Matrimonial links

From the Reverend Mervyn Tower
Sir, I am not sure that the remarks made by Mr Longley about Catholic Marriage Tribunals (July 18) made sufficiently clear the following distinction:

1. A valid marriage *ratum et consummatum* is indissoluble in the eyes of the Catholic Church. Only in very special circumstances, as Mr Longley points out, are the Pauline and Petrine privileges invoked to dissolve such a marriage.
2. Catholic Marriage Tribunals, therefore, claim no competence over the dissolution or non-dissolution of marriages. Their work is to attempt to determine whether or not the criteria for a valid marriage in the eyes of the Catholic Church were present at the time of the marriage itself; and an annulment is a statement that such criteria were not present.

The marriage is then deemed null and void from the moment of its inception. This is quite different from dissolution, which acknowledges that the marriage in question has existed.
Yours sincerely,
MERVYN TOWER,
Holy Family Presbytery,
763 Coventry Road,
Birmingham,
July 18.

Tour ban anomalies

From Mr N. M. Forster
Sir, It was inevitable that the vote against a South Africa tour by the MCC members yesterday (report, July 18) should have been seen as a vote against South African cricket. It is not.

Many members, including myself, would be delighted to see cricket links restored with South Africa, whose cricketing authorities have done everything asked of them to eliminate racial discrimination in their sport. What we were reluctant to do was to allow our club to be dragged into the sinking morass of hypocrisy which surrounds this issue; nor did we think it would help South African cricket.

For a stinking morass it certainly is! Cricketers can apparently go to South Africa individually but not as a team, because they would then represent our country - but what does our Embassy do? Companies can trade with South Africa, but cricketers cannot exercise their

Problems of achieving union reform

From Mr Vernon Bogdanor
Sir, Amongst Mr Tebbit's recent proposals for trade union reform is the suggestion that the 1913 Act regulating political contributions by trade unions be amended so that unions are required to hold regular ballots to determine whether or not their members wish to maintain political funds.

Such a proposal seems self-evidently reasonable, since many unions have not consulted their members on this question for over 150 years. Yet, in the overall context of the financing of political parties, it could generate a sense of unfairness by tilting the balance against a party, the bulk of whose financial support comes from the trade unions, in favour of parties of the Conservatives, Liberals and SDP - which seek company donations.

The rules regulating the political contributions made by trade unions are, after all, more restrictive than those regulating company contributions, in that trade unions (but not companies) are required to make contributions from a separate political fund and to allow individual members of the union to "contract out" of the political levy if they so wish. It hardly seems fair to add to these restrictions while continuing to allow companies to make political donations without previously obtaining the approval of their shareholders.

There is a danger that Mr Tebbit's proposal will appear vindictive and if that happens he will be unable to achieve the very necessary reforms which he is seeking.

Mr Tebbit has got himself into difficulty through treating the arrangements for paying the political levy as an aspect of trade union reform, whereas in reality it should be part and parcel of a review of the

sources of political finance in Britain.

Such a review could usefully consider the role of all institutional donations - whether from trade unions or companies - and it could also require the political parties to publish their accounts in standardized form so that the elector can discover how the parties are financed without having to make regular surveys of company accounts or trying to disentangle the various contributions made by the trade unions to different levels of the Labour Party.

Yours sincerely,
VERNON BOGDANOR,
Brasenose College, Oxford.

From Mr M. Upham
Sir, In Mr Tebbit's White Paper of July 12, *Proposals for Legislation on Democracy in Trade Unions*, it is proposed to stipulate a ballot only of those taking part prior to strike action. Yet the same White Paper proposes a ballot of the whole membership of a union on the maintenance of a political fund and, contrary to the strike provisions, proposes that this ballot should carry majority assent. The electorate of such a ballot has a built-in "no" minority of those who oppose political funds.

In view of the White Paper's extra restrictions on the political side as opposed to the industrial side, may we assume that her Majesty's Secretary of State for Employment is less concerned with stopping strikes than with hobbling his main political opponents?

Yours sincerely,
MARTIN UPHAM,
The Iron and Steel Trades Confederation,
Swinthorpe House, 324 Gray's Inn Road, W.C.1.

The price of housing

From Mr Bernard Kilroy

Sir, General economists of Tim Congdon's stamp are now recognising the "leakage" of housing credit into consumer spending (feature, July 14), long the concern of housing analysts. Indeed its recent growth may explain why house prices have not been fuelled faster.

However, if leakage has caused an upturn in spending activity, is that good news for the real economy? Very little housing credit feeds into new housing construction - perhaps a seventh of the £14bn of 1982 mortgage advances. Over half of all housing credit is for "equity withdrawal" to finance either existing houses changing hands or, if it is not saved, consumer spending (and imports).

On the basis of the latest published National Movers' Survey (1973) this latter leakage was

potentially some £2bn in 1982, perhaps 10 times hire-purchase credit. It compounds the inefficiencies and inequities of the range of unique tax exemptions to home owners who can effectively borrow to buy durables with tax relief.

Even more serious is the paper increase in value of the national owner-occupied housing stock (now "worth" some £300bn plus) while its overall physical condition has been steadily deteriorating, as the Government's regular surveys show. With less and less real "backing" for housing credit, we are borrowing to finance current consumption, while a liability is accumulating for repair and renewal out of the scarce resources of the next two decades. It is a less obvious form of printing money.

Yours faithfully,
BERNARD KILROY,
104 Princes House,
Kensington Park Road, W.11.

Fortress Falklands

From Colonel Jonathan Alford

Sir, In his letter (July 21) Sir Miles Clifford presses for the Falkland Islands to be turned into a Nato base. There is no such animal! There are national naval bases and there are national naval bases leased wholly or in part for use by other national navies - as with the Holy Loch or Suda Bay. Even if one could find a satisfactory formula to create a "Nato base" and flying the Nato flag, there are not many who would wish to see Nato's shrinking naval assets spread even more thinly than they are now.

It must be a question of priorities and I for one could not advocate the despatch of significant numbers of British ships permanently into the

South Atlantic for the purpose of attempting to control those waters unless we had - which seems extremely unlikely - a lot more ships.

Finally it has to be said, given the concern expressed by our Allies at the current (and, it is to be hoped, temporary) diversion of our limited assets to the South Atlantic, that such a proposal would not find any support in Nato Brussels. We cannot unilaterally modify the Nato Treaty and conveniently omit it "N" even if we believe it right to do so.

Yours sincerely,
JONATHAN ALFORD,
Deputy Director,
The International Institute for Strategic Studies,
27 Tavistock Street, W.C.2.

Divorce reform

From Mr Peter Snow

Sir, No doubt Mrs Lesley Rimmer (July 4) likes to think that the idea of giving "overriding priority" to children in divorce cases "has galvanized widespread support". The political game of extorting more and more maintenance from husbands and former husbands and of securing more and more advantage for wives and former wives - and, through them, for the public purse - has long been a regular play of our Establishment "law reformers" and the pressure groups that they stolidly maintain.

In point of fact, the divorce and matrimonial proceedings law already goes much too far in this direction. Why should a divorced parent - just because his divorce

gives a court jurisdiction which it would not otherwise have - be saddled with greater responsibilities in respect of his children than the general law would place upon him if he were not divorced?

Why are courts already allowed to make large maintenance orders for children who live in a supplementary benefit household where such orders will make no difference whatever to the children but will by aggregation of resources go to the DHSS to subsidise them for the maintenance of the former wife herself - and, if she has remarried, the maintenance of her new husband and any other children they may have as well?

Yours truly,
PETER SNOW,
177 Green Lane,
Shepperton, Middlesex.

Dr Hesketh's dismissal

From Mr D. M. Woodroffe

Sir, Matters raised by members of Scientists Against Nuclear Arms in their letter about Dr Hesketh, which you published on July 19, are expected to be examined by an industrial tribunal. In view of this the board is constrained in replying to the allegations made.

I would, however, like to assure your readers that Dr Hesketh was

not dismissed because of his public concern over the issue of the use of plutonium sent to the United States under the barter agreement between the American and British governments.

Yours faithfully,
D. M. WOODROFFE,
Executive Secretary,
Central Electricity Generating Board,
Sudbury House,
15 Newgate Street, EC.1.

profession. Gooch is banned, but we welcome Jack Nicklaus, Nicky Lauda and Jimmy Connors! The whole thing is grossly unfair and an affront to the individual freedom we profess to support.

If the argument is that the ban, however ludicrous and selective, is necessary to show our abhorrence of the South African regime, then those who use this argument must be honest and set out clearly those characteristics of any regime which qualify for such a ban. I abhor many aspects of South Africa's political philosophy, but I equally dislike many other countries' systems. However, I do wonder, what is the criterion the boycotters apply?

Is it a free press - South Africa has one, and if it had not these protests would not be heard. Is it an opposition in parliament - South Africa has one, albeit very imperfect. Most countries do not have one. Is it the existence of capital punishment - Russia executes its citizens for a wide variety of crime and East Germany for merely wanting to get out.

Is it merely racial discrimination that qualifies? Is Australia safe on this issue? Better not make it worse: discrimination or most of Africa is banned. Do not make it religious discrimination or another bunch of countries (including Britain which has an established church) might go!

The whole thing is absurd. We play Russia, we play Chile, we play San Salvador, Argentina, South Korea, North Korea and every abhorrent regime without exception apart from South Africa. If we are going to be honest and consistent let us by all means lay down a set of rules, breach of which would mean we would not play or trade or have diplomatic relations with the country concerned. If we cannot be honest or consistent, let us stop this humbug - and allow our cricketers to get on with their profession.

Yours sincerely,
N. M. FORSTER,
18 Carlton Road,
Ealing, W.5,
July 14.

Advantages of the Hawaii telescope

From Professor A. Hewish, FRS

Sir, Dr Gebbie is right to stress the conspicuous successes of British astronomers during the past two decades, but he has made some highly misleading statements (July 21) about the multimetre wavelength telescope now under construction on Mauna Kea. Most of us concerned with this project, including our enthusiastic partners in the Netherlands, believe that it will provide unique opportunities for continued successes in the future.

This instrument was conceived in 1975 (not in the late sixties) and the price has not risen in real terms although its design has been refined to exploit the best available technology. The excellent progress of the project may be one reason why the Americans dropped their plans for a less advanced telescope on Hawaii.

Dr Gebbie has little support in doubting the superb atmospheric clarity of the Mauna Kea site. Several thousand hours of site measurements, and the experience of the international community of astronomers using telescopes already present on the mountain, have confirmed that it is second to none in the wavebands concerned. The excess absorption claimed by Dr Gebbie has not been found by others and this topic has been fully discussed in scientific journals (e.g. *Nature*, April 21 1983).

It is ridiculous to suggest that the new telescope may soon be "old hat". No other instrument, either planned or in existence, can match its performance. The concept of placing a similar reflector in space raises daunting technical problems and its cost would be prodigious. The good health of British astronomy, a science in which the taxpayer continues to show great interest, is best served by a balanced programme containing both major and minor projects.

Yours etc,
ANTONY HEWISH,
Mullard Radio Astronomy Observatory,
Cavendish Laboratory,
Madingley Road,
Cambridge,
July 25.

Nameless JPs

From the Editor of the South Wales Argus

Sir, It is sad when anyone likens sugar to salt, but doubly so when this is done by a justices' clerk in a judicial discussion.

Mr John Hill (July 19) asks whether the Editors' Guild, who think that magistrates must take the risk of public exposure, consider that the same principle should be applied to the identity of jurors. The guild can well speak for itself, but it must be pointed out that there is no earthly reason why jurors, who are usually involuntary and frequently antagonistic public servants, should be likened to magistrates, who, judging by the list of eager applicants, see magistracy either as an honour in itself or as a means to an honour.

Certainly the magistrate chooses to be an actor in the spotlight, whereas the juror is better compared with an innocent passer-by who is dragged kicking and screaming to give an impromptu adjudication from one of the side boxes.

The dedicated actor will accept the occasional well-aimed tomato as a necessary part of all the rest. I courageously refrain from mentioning the kitchen and the heat.

Yours truly,
KEN GRIFIN, Editor,
South Wales Argus,
Cardiff Road,
Maesteg,
Newport, Gwent.

Post Office profits

From Professor Sir Raymond Firth

Sir, It is reported in *The Times* this morning (July 20) that the financial success of the Post Office "will make it a more attractive privatization proposition".

It used to be held that state enterprises tended to be less efficient than private enterprises, hence privatization could mean pay that which the state was running at a loss. Now the principle seems to be that private enterprise is reluctant to touch those parts of state enterprise which run at a loss and is interested only in those parts which are making a profit.

Is this private enterprise or private greed?
Yours faithfully,
RAYMOND FIRTH,
The Athenaeum,
Pall Mall, SW.1.

Dadd painting

From Mr Tom Loughton

Sir, Your correspondents (July 18) are wrong in stating that the Richard Dadd painting, "Oberon and Titania", was not available to the public. I had it on public exhibition at my hotel, the Royal at Scarborough, for 10 years or more. It was seen by John Ricketts of Sotheby's who exerted pressure on me to allow him to sell it at auction on my behalf. I agreed with reluctance and it was sold in 1964 for £7,000.

I thought at the time of my sale that it was strange that the buyer's name should not be given and this thought was reinforced when, on the occasion of the recent sale, this time the name of the seller was not disclosed.

The ownership of unique works of art is a great responsibility. I regret that I allowed the Dadd to pass from my hands, not because of its great financial value but rather because I had not retained it for the benefit of this country.

Yours faithfully,
TOM LAUGHTON,
South Beck House,
Scalby,
Scarborough,
North Yorkshire,
July 18.

Korea - the divided peninsula

Thirty years ago today the United Nations, China and North Korea signed an armistice agreement at Panmunjom which ended the Korean war. Three years of fighting had left the peninsula devastated and divided into two ideologically opposed camps. No peace treaty followed the ceasefire and in 1983 both sides remain locked in classic Cold War postures.

Nothing could illustrate better the terrible upheaval of war than a television programme that has been drawing huge audiences in South Korea. Put out by KBS, the state broadcasting system, it has reunited thousands of people with relatives from whom they were separated during the Korean war, neither party having known for more than 30 years whether the other was alive or dead.

This is how the programme works. A man looking for, say, a lost sister, goes to the KBS studio and, along with rows of people in a similar predicament, appears on television carrying a sheet of paper on which are written his and his sister's names and the place where they were separated. The sister, watching the programme at home, recognises her brother and, after the identification has been confirmed, speaks to him over the phone. Finally, in front of millions of viewers all over the country, the two are reunited in the studio. Shaken with sobs, they hug each other again and again - standing up, sitting, kneeling, even rolling on the floor - as if to make sure that what is happening is real.

These extraordinary outbursts of joy are a measure of the suffering such people have endured. There are many other Koreans who are less fortunate, however. At the end of the war, members of their families found themselves on opposite sides of the demilitarized zone which cuts the peninsula in two.

The division of Korea had been set in motion shortly after the end of the Second World War when the United States and the Soviet Union moved in to fill the vacuum left by the surrender of Japan. The colonial power since 1910, it was sealed in its present form by the armistice signed at Panmunjom 30 years ago today.

To appreciate the extent of this rupture, imagine England bisected at the Trent, with no form of communication across that dividing line and thus no means of knowing whether relatives and friends on the other side are alive or dead. In Korea, a similar operation was carried out on a country which had been unified, almost without a break, for 1,300 years.

No peace treaty followed the 1953 armistice, so that technically the two sides are still at war. To the south of the 38th parallel are the 600,000-strong

forces of South Korea, backed by nearly 40,000 American soldiers and airmen; to the north, an estimated 780,000 North Korean troops. The cost of maintaining such large numbers of people under arms is heavy. The South spends about 6 per cent of its gross national product on defence, the North, which has a much smaller economy, possibly four times that level.

Thirty years after the ceasefire, there is little sign of any relaxation of tension on the peninsula. The South complains of continued attempts at armed infiltration by the North; the North accuses the South of being a stooge of American imperialism. The media on both sides of the 38th parallel conduct a relentless propaganda war against their opponents.

Divide that country by teatime!

Just before the surrender of Japan several one-star generals hurried into an office in the Pentagon with the statement, "We've got to divide Korea." A colonel with experience in the Far East protested to his superiors: "You can't do that. Korea is a social and economic unit. There is no place to divide it." The generals insisted, "We have got to divide Korea and it has to be done by four o'clock this afternoon."

In military terms, the Americans estimate that North Korea has the edge over the South. The United States contribution to making up this difference is not so much in number of men as in firepower, electronic warfare capability and intelligence gathering. Even more important, the presence of American troops astride the most obvious invasion route from the north is a signal to Pyongyang that it cannot take on the South in isolation.

In diplomatic and, above all, in economic terms, the balance has swung decidedly in favour of South Korea. Per capita GDP in the South rose from \$87 in 1962 to nearly \$1,700 (£1,120) last year, about 70 per cent higher than that of the North. Export volume is approximately 16 times as great.

On the diplomatic front, South Korea has been chosen as the site for a series of big international events. In October it will host the seventeenth conference of the Inter-Parliamentary Union; in 1985, the annual meeting of the International Monetary Fund and World Bank; in 1986, the Asian Games; and in 1988, the Olympic Games. North Korea, by contrast, has shown an unfortunate knack of putting the wrong foot forward overseas whether it be through footballers attacking the referee in the Asian Games or through diplomats being expelled from Scandinavian countries for alleged smuggling or bribery.

South Korea hopes that China and the Soviet Union, North Korea's chief allies, will take part in some of the events in Seoul over the next five years, thus paving the way for their recognition of the regime in the South. Contact was made with China at official level in May, when a delegation flew directly from Peking to Seoul to negotiate the repatriation of a hijacked airliner and its passengers, and, according to a recent report, indirect trade between the two countries is picking up again. It had previously reached an estimated \$800m worth, comparable to the trade between China and North Korea, but had fallen away after a visit to Pyongyang by the Chinese leaders Deng Xiaoping and Hu Yaobang in April 1982.

The South Koreans have few illusions about their chances of weaning China from North Korea. Friendship with Pyongyang is essential to the Chinese; the last thing they want is for Kim Il-sung to tilt decisively towards the Soviet Union and land them with another "Vietnam" on their doorstep. A high official in Seoul said the best that could be expected in his country's relations with China was a gradual progression from "humanitarian" contacts, such as those over the recent hijacking, to sporting and cultural meetings and then to economic and trade relations.

Unlike the Chinese, the Russians have for some years allowed South Koreans to attend international conferences in the Soviet Union. There have also been two visits by Russians to Seoul since Kim Il-sung's trip to Peking in September 1982.

The first was last October, by three officials, one of vice-ministerial rank, who attended an



Together again at last. Thirty-three years after they were separated during the Korean war, Kwak Tam-shil, 57, of Seoul and her brother Kwak Man-yong, 49, of Taegon are reunited through a television campaign to trace missing relatives.

He would hope thereby both to prolong his tenure of office and to provide greater legitimacy for an unpopular regime whose origins lie in an army putch staged after the assassination of President Park Chung-hee in 1979.

Although there is a genuine desire for reunification throughout the Korean peninsula, any rapprochement carries an element of risk for those in power on both sides of the 38th parallel, in that both depend partly for their support on the state of tension that exists between them.

For Kim Il-sung to have to accept that he cannot remitte the peninsula on his own terms would be to knock away one of the main planks of his policy.

In the South, the ending of what the Government calls "a state of war" with the North would remove the justification for controls which are even tighter than those under President Park. The most prominent opponents of President Chun are still banned from political activity, the media are muzzled to a ludicrous degree, the labour unions have been emasculated, and the hundreds of university teachers, lawyers, journalists and students who are prevented from practising their professions or continuing their studies remind one of Czechoslovakia after the Soviet invasion of 1968.

The division of the Korean peninsula, following so fast on liberation from Japanese rule in 1945, is one of the greatest tragedies of this century. Reuniting the two halves entails not only reconciling great power rivalries but also accepting what could be uncomfortable changes for the leaders in both Pyongyang and Seoul. The task is daunting but surely not beyond a people which was first unified in the seventh century AD and has since survived as an entity despite the incursions of its two great power neighbours, China and Japan.

Simon Scott Plummer

Pulling families apart

"They say all roads lead to home. But no road leads to my home. Where I left my wife, my parents..."

The words of the Korean poet Pak Mok-wol go straight to the heart of more than five million people living in South Korea today. Labeled "dispersed family members", they all have relatives somewhere in North Korea, but for more than three decades there has been no free travel between the two halves of the Korean peninsula, no mail, no personal communication; few know where their relatives are or even whether they are still alive.

Although, throughout its history, the peninsula has been buffeted by hostile incursions from neighbouring China, Mongolia and Japan, the people of this "Hermit Kingdom" remained unusually homogeneous, clinging fiercely to their national identity and repelling strangers. It was a particularly bitter irony, then, that after the Second World War, Korea was liberated from its most recent invaders, the Japanese, only to be torn in two by the differing ideologies of the world powers.

Between the outbreak of war in 1950 and the armistice in 1953 the fighting raged up and down the peninsula, and at one time the North Korean forces held all but the southern tip around the port of Pusan. During that period, according to the South Korean authorities, an estimated 85,000 South Koreans, most of them leading figures in various fields, were kidnapped and about 440,000 youths were recruited into the North Korean army and forcibly taken to North Korea. Most were never heard of again.

The majority of the dispersed family members, however, are northerners who fled from the communist regime. Three and a half million refugees came south before the war began, nearly one million escaped across the border within the short period of December 1950 and early January 1951. They came by boat, train, truck or on foot, bringing only those possessions they could carry and leaving lands, houses, friends and relatives. Few thought their exile would be more than temporary. In many cases husbands went ahead to prepare for wives, children and aged parents to follow. Too many left it too late and families found themselves stranded.

Many of the refugees were Christians. "Pyongyang was a

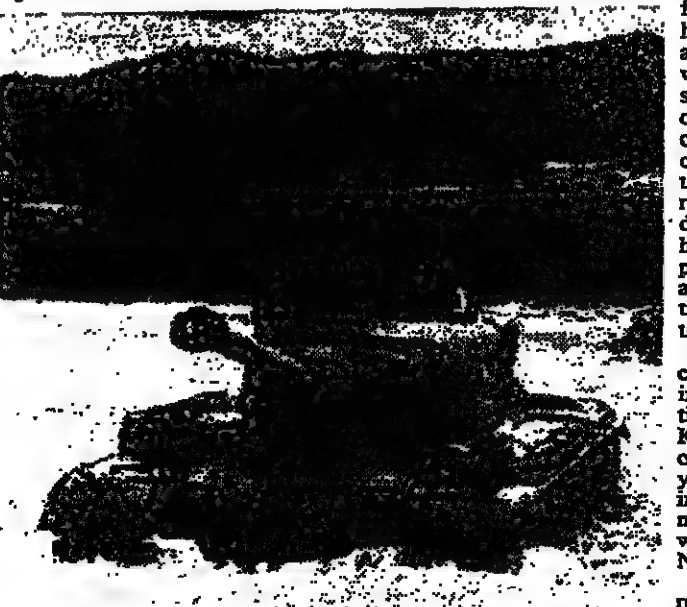
kind of cradle for Protestantism in Korea," explained Yoo Chang-sun, former Prime Minister and now president of South Korea's National Red Cross (ROKNCRC). Mr Yoo, himself a refugee from the north, recalled how he and his wife, carrying their small child, had walked many miles to cross the border, keeping to back roads and alleys "to escape the watching eyes of the communist police".

Richard Kim, a novelist who now lives in Seoul, vividly remembers the fairly typical experience of his own family. His father escaped first to the south by driving through a checkpoint. Next he arranged for Richard, then aged 15, to be smuggled out by freight train, but unexpected delays meant he spent nearly three days, instead of five hours, hidden between bags of cement, without food or

shot because of his bourgeois intellectual background. My maternal grandfather, a Presbyterian minister who refused to leave his church, was also shot the day before war broke out."

In spite of immense initial difficulties, most of the former refugees are now well integrated into South Korean society. Many have become successful businessmen, or hold eminent positions in government or other circles. But their chances of returning home or being reunited with their families, as remote today as they were during the war.

Hopes were first raised in 1957 when North Korea handed a list of "displaced civilians" to the ROKNCRC, but no further information followed. Then in 1971 the North Korean Red Cross (NKRC) accepted a South proposal to discuss ways to ease the sufferings of the dispersed



An American tank fords a fast-flowing river in central Korea in 1952. The three-year war sealed the division of the peninsula so that today more than five million people in South Korea are separated from their relatives in the North.

drink. In desperation he got off the train, was caught, knocked unconscious and taken to a police station.

Luckily one of the policemen recognised him and contacted his uncle, who was a communist. The uncle helped him, and later his mother and younger brother, to escape and his two sisters and paternal grandparents eventually managed to join them in the south. "It took 2½ years for all the family to get out," said Mr Kim. "I think my poor communist uncle helped everyone. I heard he was later

families. Preliminary and "full-dress" talks were held over the next few years, but then ran into a stalemate. ROKNCRC suggested various projects such as establishing a tracing service between the two Red Cross offices, arranging visits between aged parents and their children and the setting up of a reunion centre and postal exchange at the true border village of Panmunjom. The North, however, insisted on the repeal of ever, insisted on the repeal of anti-communist laws and dissolution of anti-communist organizations in the South, and

international conference and had informal discussions with the government. The second was last March when two Soviet officials attended an agricultural conference. Commenting on these visits, Professor Aha Byong-joon of Yonsei University in Seoul said: "The Russians intended to express their displeasure with North Korea for playing the China card. They wanted to show that they can play the South Korea card against the North."

In January the United States, Japan and South Korea inaugurated the Red Cross societies of each side, and culminated in a joint communique which expressed

the wish to achieve reunification through peaceful means. Since he came to power in the South three years ago, President Chun Doo-hwan has made several proposals to resume contact but these have been turned down by Pyongyang.

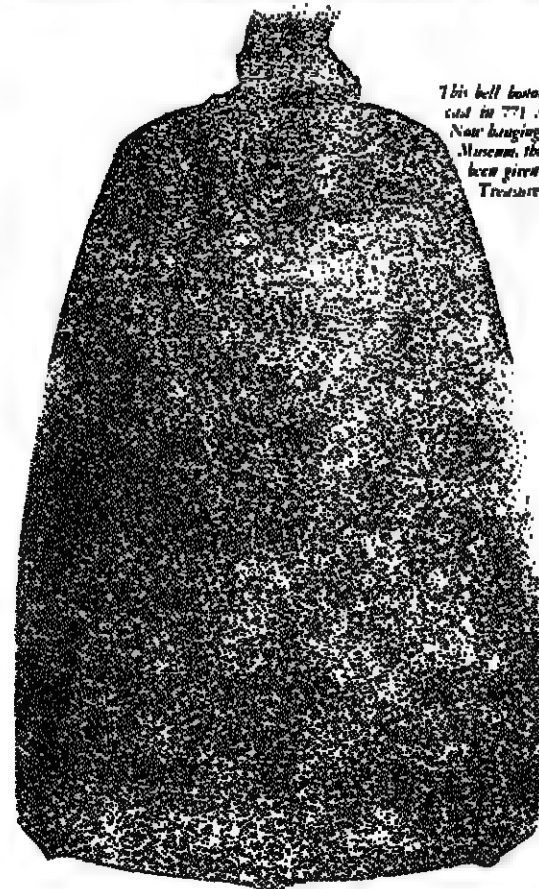
Even if negotiations were to take place, it seems doubtful whether either side would be confident enough to make significant concessions. In the North the question of handing over power to Kim Il-sung's son, Kim Jong-il, appears not to have been finally settled and,

until it is, Pyongyang is unlikely to modify its policy towards the South. In the worst event, the country could be split between pro-and anti-Kim Jr factions, one backed by the Soviet Union, the other by China.

There is a succession problem in the South as well. President Chun has said he will step down in 1988 but rumours abound that in the next year or so he will revise the constitution to allow direct election of the president, instead of through an electoral college, and then put himself forward as a candidate.

The ancient Korean artisan's perseverance for perfection

A tradition handed down to today.



This bell bearing King Gongdo's seal in 771 AD and hung at Pohang-do, North Korea, is the oldest of its kind. It is now housed in the National Museum, the oldest of its kind in the world (National Treasure No. 29).

The mentality of the ancient Korean artisan—patience, determination, scientific precision, ingenuity, and dedication to a cause greater than the self—is nowhere more evident than in centuries of metal craftsmanship.

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Mold from Bronze Age (500-300 BC)

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Sunkyong Group

The Sunkyong Group is playing an important part in Korean business today in such fields as general trading, fibres, chemicals, construction and oil refining.

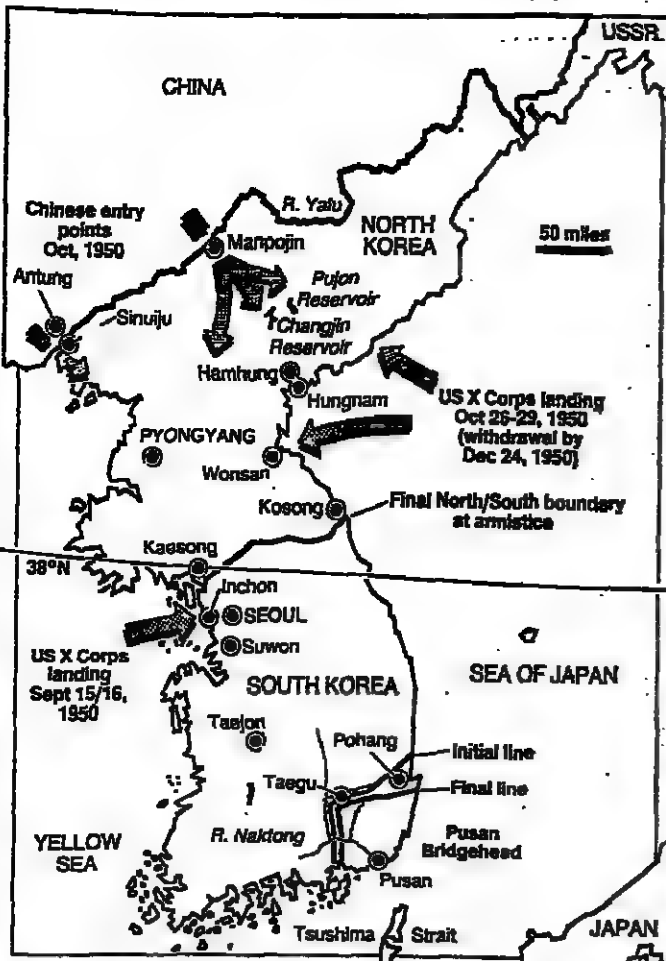
The painful lessons of a limited war

As a surprise stroke, the North Korean's opening offensive against the South on Sunday, June 25, 1950, was a triumph for Stalin. Although various intelligence agencies later sought to claim that they had predicted the event, the Soviet Union's secret reinforcement of weapons, aircraft, vehicles, ammunition and equipment to North Korea, and the later deployment of North Korean army to battle stations, was known only to the three nations party to it. The third nation was, of course, China, which had been under communist rule since October, 1949. Peking had concluded a treaty of friendship, alliance and mutual assistance with the Soviet Union in February, 1950, and the railway system of north-east China was essential to the passage of ordnance from Russia to North Korea.

It is likely that Stalin acceded to the proposal by Kim Il-sung, the North Korean leader, to take the South by force because Russian adventurism in Europe outside its zones of military occupation had everywhere been rebuffed. In Berlin, in Austria, in Greece - even in Yugoslavia.

Korea was peculiarly suited to consolidation within the Soviet bloc. The prospect for success seemed high, the risk for Russia negligible. In 1945, this former Japanese possession had been divided into zones of occupation at the 38th parallel of latitude as a temporary expedient: the Russians to the north of the line, the United States to the south. These powers had agreed to negotiate unification. Having created circumstances for Kim Il-sung to acquire absolute political and military power in the north, Stalin was ready to withdraw his occupation force, anticipating that this would persuade the United States to do the same.

Thereafter, a strong, though minority, Communist party in the South would combine with the organized military strength in the North to take over power in a unified Korea. To this end, all attempts by the United States to bring about economic, and later, with the missions sent by the United Nations, political, union of the country by open process were thwarted. Reluctantly, but by majority vote, the United Nations agreed to separate elections in the South. While these were rough, in almost every sense of the term, they were an expression of popular opinion. The new state in the South, the Republic of Korea (ROK), was formally recognized by 46 to eight



The map shows how the fighting swung from one end of the country to the other in the first six months of the war. Right: a wounded Argyle and Sutherland Highlander is helped in an ambulance during an Allied advance. British casualties during the war were 686 dead, 2,498 wounded and 62 missing.



by Anthony Farrar-Hockley

General Sir Anthony Farrar-Hockley, who retired from the Army this year after almost 44 years service, took part in the Korean war as adjutant of the 1st Bn. The Gloucestershire Regiment. He is the official historian for the United Kingdom involvement in and contribution to the war, and is now involved in writing the single volume work which is to be published by HMSO.

The South Korean forces withdrew in disorder as the Northern army thrust southward through Seoul and Suwon to Taejeon, which was also quickly captured. The Security Council decision to intervene was perhaps made easier because the Russian representative had absented himself earlier. Land and air forces began to cross the 38th parallel. The leading American land element was too

small, however, and unready for battle. Even though there was a steady increase in numbers to the point where three US divisions had joined the ROK army by August 4, they were unable to hold the bridgehead 120 by 75 miles to cover the essential port of Pusan.

Already, 16 nations had agreed to send troop contingents. The United Kingdom promised a strong brigade group for October but, urged by Washington to send something sooner in view of the pressure, despatched a light force of two battalions from Hongkong and almost immediately they were drawn into the fighting along the protective line of the Nakdong River. Several times it seemed that the bridgehead, reduced to 75 by 65 miles, would be broken open by the North Koreans, who had the advantage of the initiative as well as bravery and skill. General MacArthur, the United Nations supreme commander, was obliged to send part of his reserve, the US 1st Marine Division, to reinforce this line.

In Peking, the Chinese grew alarmed. A composite contingency force had been in training in north-east China since July, probably to provide a final impetus, if necessary, for a quick victory. Now the UN forces were approaching the Chinese border. Chou En-lai gave various warnings to the West, the most explicit to the Indian ambassador in Peking, that China would intervene if North Korea was entered. This was dismissed by participant governments as rhetoric.

On October 13 the Chinese Fourth Field Army, identifying its members as "volunteers", began crossing into Korea to maintain a concerted offensive by four - shortly six - armies against the UN divisions in the North from the 25th onwards. Surprised, General Walker attempted a counter-offensive which failed. He began a long retreat which took his soldiers south of Seoul at the end of the year.

The air forces, which had promised to cut the Yalu crossings, were unable to do so - partly inhibited by political constraints concerning Chinese territory but more importantly because they lacked the weapons. Along the coasts, the British Commonwealth navies held the western waters, those of the United States the eastern.

Then fortunes changed. The Chinese supply arrangements were poor and made worse by attacks from the air. The severe winter forced them to pull back. General Walker, killed in a motor accident, was replaced by Lt-Gen Matthew B. Ridgway. The new army commander brought a fresh concern. He would "roll with the punches" and counter-attack when the Chinese extended themselves.

General Ridgway counter-attacked the weakened Chinese advancing to the area of the 38th parallel where, for political reasons, his army halted. In late April, 1951, the Chinese launched a new offensive. Though lacking forward air cover and artillery, their numerous infantry, hardy, brave and skilled in fighting off the line of march, once more broke the UN line.

General Ridgway had just been sent to replace General

MacArthur in Tokyo. The new army commander, Lt-Gen James Van Fleet III, sought to hold firm and there were high UN losses at several points of contact. But the UN force remained unscathed. Judging his moment well, Van Fleet counter-attacked an enemy depleted in men and supplies. By June the Eighth Army was just short of Kaesong in the west, as far as Kaesong in the east, 50 miles north of the parallel.

There the line was to remain, minor movements apart. In June, 1951 the Russian delegate to the Security Council, once more seated, proposed armistice talks. Although these dragged on for over two years, during which several local battles raged and the terms of repatriation of prisoners-of-war was apparently the impediment to agreement, the armistice became effective on July 27, 1953.

Two political events influenced it: Stalin's death in March, 1953, and President Eisenhower's covert warning that if an honourable armistice was denied, the United States would take wider action to end the war. This was clearly not a bluff. The American people were becoming restive for a decision.

Syngman Rhee threatened the agreements by releasing prematurely North Korean prisoners to repatriation, but China and Russia were not inclined to continue the war. It had not achieved Stalin's aim. It had been costly to Russia in resources and to China in men as well as money. The Chinese army had been shaken by its reverses.

No government by force

The United Nations had won its point that no people should have a government imposed upon them by force of arms, but it had been a painful experience, one which many members recalled when the US became involved later in Indo-China.

One consequence of the war was the acceleration of West Germany to independence with its own defence force and an important place as the Federal Republic in the Atlantic Alliance.

The Western allies should have learnt that wars break out at inconvenient times in unlikely places. They have failed to provide for this since and have had to meet unnecessary bills. The land forces in Korea learnt old lessons, particularly the infantry: it was an infantryman's war. The air forces continued to make strategic promises they could not keep but did marvellously well tactically. The military helicopter showed in an operational debut its remarkable value. The navies, unchallenged by submarines or surface fleet, performed with ready skill, particularly in the air and in retrieving amphibious capabilities. Western governments had declared they would never need again. The Western prisoners-of-war had a harsh experience as captives of communist powers: the North Koreans were savage captors, the Chinese ruthless when it suited their objectives.

This showdown from 1950-52 is now called a limited war. It was certainly limited geographically and to the conventional weapons of the day. Its settlement has also been limited: no peace treaty has developed from the armistice and North and South commissions continue to engage in sterile encounters.

North Korea: life on the other side

When the Japanese colonial administration withdrew from the Korean peninsula after Japan's military surrender in 1945 it left behind an economy with well-developed transport and manufacturing facilities, but very few Koreans had been trained in the operation of a modern economy. The division of Korea which occurred at that time ruptured the economic framework. While the Soviet-administered north contained the bulk of industrial raw materials and plants, it was cut off from the agricultural heartland and the large concentrations of population in the south.

Five years later the Korean War, which raged throughout the peninsula, devastated the industrial infrastructure of North Korea, and plants which had been reopened and operated with Soviet assistance were reduced to rubble. A farming sector already unable to feed its population was disrupted.

By the end of the conflict in 1953, the North Korean economy had been wrecked, war casualties had increased the already serious shortage of skilled workers and a massive defection of people to the non-communist South took place. Yet on these less-than-solid foundations the North Koreans have built their small, isolated state into one of the more developed in Asia and the most economically advanced of the communist countries in the region.

North Korea has built up mining and metal processing industries based on extensive deposits of iron and metal ores; it has developed plants producing machinery, armaments and transport equipment in impressive quantities, if not quality; and it has expanded and intensified its agriculture to a point where it is virtually self-sufficient in food production. Its national income per capita, estimated at about \$1,000 (£645), is four times that of neighbouring China and about six times that of Vietnam.

The official rhetoric of Pyongyang has trumpeted that this impressive progress has come largely from the unaided efforts of politically motivated North Korean workers and technicians mobilised under President Kim Il-sung's guiding policy of *juche* - a doctrine of national independence and self-reliance. The reality is somewhat different. A combination of adherence to long-term objectives of heavy industrial development, rigid central planning and a regimented labour force has achieved substantial development in strategically chosen industries.

However, it has also involved a significant inflow of foreign economic and technical aid from its chief backers - the Soviet Union and China - and the accumulation of a big foreign debt problem left over from the country's unsustained attempt to acquire up-to-date plant from Western suppliers. It is difficult to assess how far foreign assistance has underpinned the country's development. Because of the commitment to *juche*, this subject is never mentioned in the tightly controlled domestic media.

However, the Soviet Union, Pyongyang's largest benefactor, has not been so reticent. Moscow has stated several times recently that 60 large industrial plants in North Korea have been constructed or rebuilt with Soviet aid, and a dozen more are known to be currently under construction. The most detailed examination of Soviet aid came last year in an issue of the authoritative *Far Eastern Affairs*, published by the USSR Academy of Science. The report estimated that Soviet-supplied plants accounted for 60 per cent of North Korea's electricity output, 45 per cent of its iron production; 35 per cent of its rolled steel; 30 per cent of its output of fabrics. It said that since 1970, Soviet-backed projects accounted for 40 per cent of the increase in electricity and rolled steel production and 30 per cent of coal output, as well as a sizeable increment in chemical fertilizer and rail transport capacity.

The Russian claim is clearly at odds with North Korea's insistence that it has pulled itself up economically by its own bootstraps. South Korean academic studies have put a total figure of \$2,800m (measured in as-penned dollars) as the amount of aid received from all communist sources in the period from 1945 to 1978, with the bulk of this for war reconstruction before 1960. The figure includes about \$2,000m of military assistance but not pay-back deals, which alone are believed to involve a debt of around \$1,000m to the Russians.

Pyongyang's continuing dependence for development on the USSR has led to strong trade ties. In recent years total two-way trade of about \$800m-900m has accounted for almost one third of all North Korean trade. China, with total trade believed to be about \$500m a year, ranks second as a trading partner and also as a supplier of economic assistance.

Most of China's aid has been in the area of energy supply and development. North Korea's largest oil refinery, the 2.5m tonnes a year capacity Ponghwa plant in the far north-west of the country, only 20km from the Chinese border, has been the principal Chinese aid project to date. Completed in 1980 after five years of construction, the plant is designed to handle Chinese crude which reaches North Korea by pipeline. In a break from its customary silence on foreign aid, Pyongyang acknowledged the Chinese role in the Ponghwa project.

Joint ventures with Chinese

Other Chinese projects consist predominantly of hydroelectric generating facilities on the Yalu river, which forms the North Korea-China border. These are in the form of joint ventures, with China receiving an entitlement to part of the power generated by the stations in return for use of its border water and for its supply of the technologically advanced generating plant. Construction is well advanced on the third dam and power station built under this arrangement.

North Korea's only attempt to move beyond its communist allies and acquire modern technology from Western countries during the early 1970s has proved to be both an economic misjudgement and a lingering political embarrassment for Pyongyang.

After a sharp reduction in communist aid in the late 1960s, accompanied by a slackening in economic growth, North Korea turned to Western European and Japanese suppliers for a range of modern petrochemical, machine-tool, cement and paper-making plant. The equipment was to be paid for on short- to medium-term credits.

In its buying spree, Pyongyang ran up bills totalling \$1,500m-2,000m. The aim of the economic planners was to meet this debt by way of a boost in hard-currency earnings with exports produced by these and other factories. Unfortunately, they failed to anticipate the severe international trade downturn which followed the first Opec oil price rise. Moreover, the rigidly bureaucratic economic management system seemed unable to accommodate the rapid inflow of unfamiliar technology.

Payments on the debts slowed in 1973, and by 1975, when the Soviet Union refused to lend Pyongyang hard currency to meet its Western commitments (perhaps because it was already the largest creditor), North Korea defaulted on its debt. Since then, negotiations with lenders have rescheduled repayment of the debts several times. The most recent schedule, which called for repayment of capital by 1985, has again fallen to pieces. Some Japanese creditors, who are owed about \$360m, have agreed to yet another timetable which calls for full repayment by 1989.

Ron Richardson



KOREA

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Hard fighting by marines

Secretly, during August and September, General MacArthur was assembling a corps to land at Inchon, almost half way up the Korean west coast, the port of the capital, Seoul, and a site well in rear of the bridgehead adjacent to the North Koreans' main supply route. Strategically promising, the site was extraordinarily difficult to reach: the tide in the Inchon basin falls 30ft twice a day.

On September 15 the marines landed successfully and led X Corps in two weeks of hard fighting to the liberation of Seoul. Meanwhile the bridgehead defenders, under Lt-Gen Walton H. Walker, commanding the Eighth Army, had broken out in an associated operation. By October 9 the United Nations Command was crossing the 38th parallel northward. The corps at Inchon embarked for a landing high on the east coast at Hungnam.

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東亞日報

This year marks the centenary of diplomatic relations between Britain and Korea, an event which is being celebrated on both sides with a series of exhibitions, symposia and theatrical and musical performances.

Dr Tony Michell, Director of the Korean Study Project at the University of Hull, looks back at this relationship.

A missionary among the smugglers

Although the Anglo-Korean treaty was signed in Seoul on November 26, 1883, British interest in Korea dates back to the seventeenth century. On establishing themselves in Japan, officials of the East India Company were attracted to the possibilities of trade with Korea, but were thwarted by the Daimyo of Tsushima's control of Japanese-Korean trade. By the 1640s the English had been squeezed out of Japan by the Tokugawas. Nevertheless, Britons continued to sail off Korea. One Scot, Alexander Bosquet, a gunner on the Dutch ship Sparrow Hawk, was shipwrecked on Cheju Island in 1653 and lived in Korea for 16 years until released in 1669.

The rise of English maritime strength brought British chart-makers to Korea as early as 1797, when William Broughton surveyed the east coast. In 1845 the Komundo islands off the south coast were surveyed and named Fort Hamilton. After the opening of Japan in 1858, it became a regular port of call for the Far Eastern fleet on its annual voyage from Hongkong.

British merchants in China became involved in smuggling goods into Korea, and on one such voyage in 1868 the Welsh missionary, Rev Jermain Thomas, was killed when the ship ran aground near P'yongyang and was burnt, according to North Korean accounts, by the grandfather of Kim Il-sung. Thomas had previously spent three months in Korea in 1865.

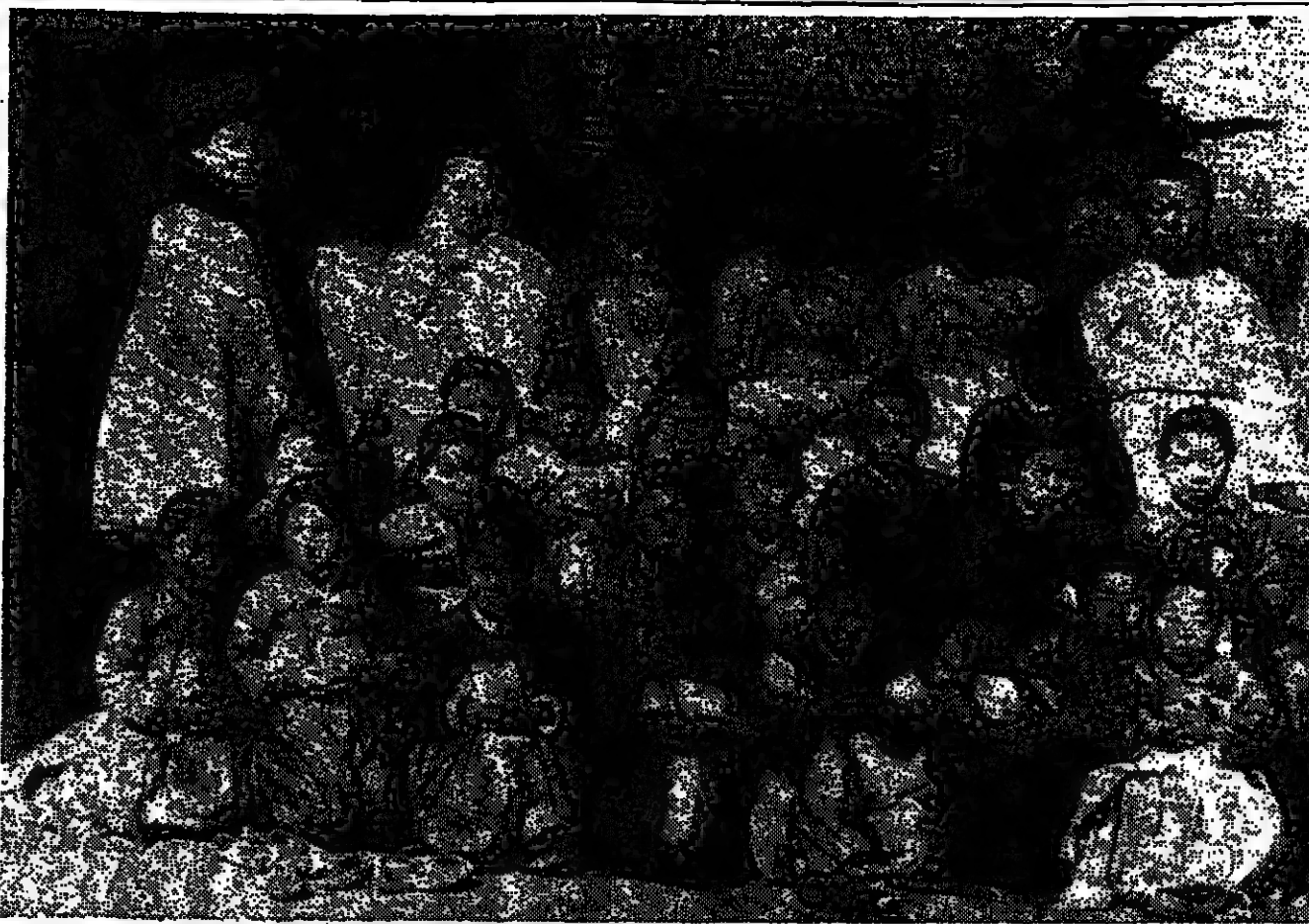
To the statesmen of the Great Powers, Russia, Great Britain, Germany and France, Korea became an unfortunate pawn in a global strategy. British interests were concerned with the containment of Russian expansion in the Far East and as early as 1878 a plan had been formulated to seize Port Hamilton as a British naval base. By the 1880s Korea was becoming

increasingly entangled in Chinese-Japanese rivalries which were to affect the outcome of the treaty and subsequent Anglo-Korean relations.

In 1876 a treaty with Japan was forced on Korea in the same way Western powers had forced the opening of Japan 20 years earlier. In 1882 the US became the first Western country to conclude a treaty with Korea. A few days after, Admiral George Wille signed a treaty based on the American one, but with due regard for British naval interests. This treaty was felt to be inadequate, especially by Sir Harry Parkes in Tokyo, because it gave grounds for the Japanese and Chinese to renegotiate "the unequal treaties". The treaty was therefore renegotiated and formalized in 1883, Parkes (now Minister at Peking) journeying to Seoul to sign. The treaty was with all the countries of the British Empire, not merely the United Kingdom, and therefore marked the beginning of diplomatic relations with nearly a fifth of the world.

Entangled in controversy

The delay in negotiations was unfortunate for Korea. Whereas the US had recognized Korea as an independent country, the British became entangled in a controversy about Korea's dependency on China. This relationship, enshrined in annual tributes from Korea to China, was only politically important when China was strong enough to enforce her claims, which were greatly extended in the 1880s compared with the 1870s. As a consequence, the British mission to Korea was subordinate to



Mrs. Hillary, wife of Fr. Frederick Hillary of the Anglican Mission in Korea, with pupils of St. Andrew's Girls' School at Onsu-ri on Kangwha Island, circa 1908. From the collection of Miss A. J. Roberts, MBE, Taejeon.

Peking until 1901, when the consul-general was replaced by a full minister.

Commercial interests preceded diplomatic. In 1882 the Koreans hired a former Chinese customs official, Von Möllendorff, to organise the Korean customs service. Von Möllendorff saw the possibilities for the rapid modernisation of Korea and negotiated a deal with Jardine, Matheson and Co to develop Korea's potential by building railways, operating shipping lines and exploiting mineral resources.

Unfortunately, although Korean produce had seemed attractive to seventeenth century traders, they were not so desirable in the final quarter of the nineteenth. Jardine Matheson's venture lasted only three years and ended in loss, surrendering the Korean trade to the Japanese and Chinese. By 1884 reforms had come to a halt and Korea was under the tutelage of the Chinese Resident General. Consequently the customs service was operated by British officials on loan from the Chinese customs service.

In 1885 the threat of Russia or another power seizing Korea seemed so imminent to the British that they occupied Port Hamilton and began to erect a naval base with telegraph to Shanghai. In the subsequent

negotiations Britain offered to lease the island, making it a Hongkong of the north-east Pacific. The illegal occupation ended in 1887, leaving only a British cemetery (still tended today).

Korea became the scene of the Sino-Japanese war of 1894-5, fought almost exclusively in Korea and Korean coastal waters. The resounding Japanese victory brought a change in



British policy, which preferred to use the Anglo-Japanese naval treaties as a way of containing Russian expansion. Each of these treaties recognized the special interest Japan had in Korea, marking gradual acquiescence in Japan's absorption of the peninsula.

The Russo-Japanese war of 1904-5 was fought initially on Korean territory but, mainly in Manchuria, bordering on Korea. British officers were attached to Japanese units as

observers and left accounts of the occupation of Korea by the Japanese, including the construction of Yongnam, the Japanese military garrison for Seoul until 1943 (now the U.S. forces' headquarters). The success of the Japanese army and navy lessened the need for the British to use the Japanese against Russia, and in some quarters there was concern about Japanese expansion. Nevertheless the treaties were renewed, despite the growth of commercial interest in Korea.

Anglican missionaries, well established in Korea from 1889, operating hospitals as well as missions, also opposed Japanese encroachment. Much more vocal was Ernest Bethell, who had come to Korea to cover the Russo-Japanese war and founded the *Daehan Maeil Shinbo* (Korean Daily News), dedicated to opposing Japan.

Under the treaty of 1883, which provided extra-territoriality for British citizens, the only way the Japanese could prosecute Bethell was in the British consular court. In 1907, with a missionary as defence witness, Bethell was given a fine and suspended sentence. In 1908 he was imprisoned in Shanghai by the same court, but returned declaring: "My fight for Korea is heaven-ordained. I will work regardless of my

personal safety." Bethell died in 1909 and his secretary, Manham, sold the paper.

When Japan established a protectorate over Korea in 1906, the diplomatic representation in London ceased and the British embassy in Seoul became a consulate general, a status it retained until 1941. However, when Korea was annexed in 1910, commercial interests were strong enough to cause the British government to issue a protest at any attempt to limit the conditions under which British nationals conducted their business in Korea.

Rapid increase in trade

A small British community remained in Seoul, chiefly missionaries and businessmen. Successive consul-generals sent back reports on the Korean desire for independence and increasing ability of Koreans to run their own affairs. Much

British trade was conducted from Tokyo and one employee of Shell, Mr Gompertz, was so fascinated by Korean art that he later collected one of the largest private collections of Korean ceramics, much of it now

donated to the Fitzwilliam Museum in Cambridge.

Two British firms operated shipping, insurance and import agencies through much of the colonial period, and more British owned ships cleared from Korean ports in the 1930s than those of any other nation but Japan. Trade with Britain increased rapidly in the 1930s as industrialization began in Korea. The Singer Sewing Machine company of Glasgow supplied 112,725 domestic sewing machines and 1,560 industrial machines between 1930 and 1937. In 1937 all foreign owned enterprises were forced to sell their holdings, and in 1940 the Anglicans withdrew all British missionaries in the face of the anti-foreign campaign orchestrated by the Japanese.

The principle of Korean independence was agreed at the Cairo conference, but the British accepted that north-east Asia would be primarily in the American sphere of influence. The British took no part in the occupation of South Korea and were belatedly informed of US-Russian talks on trusteeship. British diplomats reoccupying the buildings built in 1890 could only observe the early independence of Korea. The main British aim was to accelerate the reopening of Korea to foreign trade, which the Americans showed no interest in doing.

As late as 1949 the Foreign Office was not optimistic about the chances of survival of the new republic of South Korea. But when the expected storm broke on June 25, 1950, with the invasion by North Korea, Britain and the Commonwealth responded immediately to the UN resolution of June 27.

Part of the Far Eastern fleet was cruising in Japanese waters and was the first help to arrive. On July 2, HMS Jamaica and support ship were attacked by North Korean MTBs, the first naval action of the war, and on July 8 the Jamaica was hit by a shore battery, causing the first British casualties. Five battalions of British troops served alongside Canadian, Australian and New Zealand forces with Indian medical support, cooperating in holding the direct road to Seoul. The most famous incident was in 1951 when the Gloucesters were left to try to delay the Chinese to buy time for evacuation of the rest of the UN army. In all, perhaps 30,000 British National Servicemen served in Korea during the war.

The last battalion was withdrawn in 1957, but a platoon remained in Hongkong continues to serve in the UN honour guard. The British government's support for South Korea appears unchanged since the 1950s in that North Korea is one of the very few governments not recognized by the UK although it appears to fulfil

all the normal Foreign Office criteria for recognition.

The first director of the UN Korean Relief Agency was an Englishman, responsible for coordinating the reconstruction of Korea with foreign aid. Many other senior UN officials in Korea through the years have been English, while British charities such as Save the Children began operations in Korea in the early 1950s and have continued up to the present.

In 1957 the British legation was raised to an embassy with a resident ambassador at a time when many countries serviced Korea from their Tokyo embassies. In the same year Ewktir, a Hongkong office agency, established its office, followed by Jardine Matheson and Swires. Many of Britain's trade relationships remain through such British firms based in Hongkong.

Since 1973 exports to Britain have consistently exceeded imports, despite British involvement in major projects such as power stations, shipyards and motor design. In terms of invisible earnings the balance is in favour of British firms, with banks and insurance companies well represented. There is also a number of joint ventures in Korea. In turn, in recent years, many Korean companies have opened offices in London, especially construction firms. Anglo-Korean coop-

Centenary events in London

Modern Korean ceramics, Royal Festival Hall, July 22-Sept 4; Korean National Dance Company, Queen Elizabeth Hall, Aug 29-Sept 3; Treasures from Korea, British Museum, Feb 3-May 17, 1984.

eration in Middle East construction projects has been particularly fruitful.

Koreans have for long looked to Britain in the educational field. In the 1920s, Yun Po-sun, who would be President of Korea in 1960-61, studied at Edinburgh and Birmingham, the first of a steady stream of Korean students. Korean studies in the UK, for many years represented by Dr W. E. Skilled at S.O.A.S., are now pursued at Sheffield, Hull and Durham. On July 8 Hull University became the first British university to sign an exchange agreement with the Korean university of Cheongju.

The cultural contacts with Britain are deep. English writers did much to inform the outside world of Korea in the 19th century, and English literature influenced Korean literature. Increasingly, Korean art, literature and recent achievements in rapid modernisation are being accorded proper recognition in Britain.

THE DONG-A ILBO SEOUL, KOREA CELEBRATES

THE KOREAN-BRITISH CENTENARY 1883-1983

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In 1981 Dr. Kim was conferred the title of Knight of the British Empire by Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II. Currently Honorary Chairman of the Dong-A Ilbo, he is chairman of the Press Foundation of Asia and a director of the International Press Institute. This year he is serving as Chairman of the Korean-British Centennial Committee.

The Dong-A Ilbo

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صكنا من الاموال

Investment and Finance

City Editor
Anthony Hilton

THE TIMES

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STOCK EXCHANGES

FT Index: 708.9 up 8.0
 FT 100: 79.89 up 0.20
 FT All Share: 447.43 up 0.82
 (datastream estimate)
 Bargains: 18,864
 Datastream USM Leaders
 Index: 96.84 down 0.19
 New York: Dow Jones Average
 1231.07 down 1.80
 Tokyo: Nikkei Dow Jones
 Index: 9005.48 up 13.55
 Hongkong: Hang Sang Index
 107.96 up 16.19
 Amsterdam: Index 148.7 + 2.2
 Frankfurt: Commerzbank
 Index: 976.7 up 6.1
 Sydney: AO Index: 678.1 up 5.7
 Brussels: General Index
 130.91 up 1.1
 Paris: C A C Index: 129.9 up 1.1
 Zurich: S K A General: 290.3 up 0.7

CURRENCIES

LONDON CLOSE
 Sterling: \$1.5250 up 25pts
 Index: 85.1 up 0.4
 DM: 3.9850 up 0.0150
 FF: 11.9750 up 0.0525
 Yen: 367.25 up 0.75
 Dollar: Index: 126.6 down 0.1
 DM: 2.6125

NEW YORK
 Sterling: \$1.5255
INTERNATIONAL
 ECU: £0.572558
 SDR: £0.697506

INTEREST RATES

Domestic rates:
 Bank base rate: 9%
 Finance houses base rate: 10 1/2%
 Discount market loans: week fixed 9%
 3 month interbank: 9 1/4-9 7/8%
Euro-currency rates:
 3 month dollar: 10-10 1/2%
 3 month DM: 5 1/4-5 1/2%
 3 month FF: 13 1/4-13 1/2%

US rates:
 Bank prime rate: 10.50
 Fed funds: 9%
 Treasury long bond: 90 1/4-90 1/2%

ECGD Fixed Rate Sterling
 Export Finance Scheme IV
 Average reference rate for
 interest period June 2 to July 5,
 1983 inclusive: 8.878 per cent.

GOLD

London fixed (per ounce): am
 \$426.25, pm \$425.50
 close \$425.75 (\$279) up \$1.00
 New York \$425.50
Kruggerand (per coin):
 \$438-439.50 (\$287-288)
Sovereigns (new) \$100-101
 (\$85.50-86.75)
 excludes VAT.

TODAY

Interims: Barlow, Cronite, Leda
 Investment Trust, Midland Bank,
 Updown Investment Company,
 Finesse Consultants (Computer and
 Financial), Greenfield Investment
 Company, Gresham House, Priest
 (Benjamin).

ANNUAL MEETINGS

De La Rue Company (Peculiarly
 Hotel (11.30); Associated
 Services, Grosvenor Hotel, 101
 Buckingham Palace Road, SW1
 (noon); Beecham Group, Hotel
 Inter-Continental (Grand Ballroom)
 1 Hamilton Place, Hyde Park
 Corner, W1 (noon); Black Hill
 Minerals, 5th Floor, 297 Murray
 Street, Perth (10.30); British &
 Commonwealth Shipping Co., The
 Queen's Room, Baltic Exchange
 Chambers, 14-20 St Mary Axe EC3
 (noon); Butler & Lums (Holdings),
 Victoria Hotel, Bradford (3.30);
 Caledonia Investments, Cayzer
 House, 2-4 St Mary Axe, EC3
 (3.00); Continental & Industrial
 Trust, 120 Chesapeake, EC2 (noon);
 Dunhill Holdings, The Mount Suite,
 Grosvenor House Hotel, Park
 Lane, W1 (12.00); Mercury Securities,
 30 Gresham Street, EC2
 (noon); Morris Investment Trust,
 Great Eastern Hotel, Liverpool
 Street, EC2 (10.00); Pauls &
 Whites, Pauls & Whites Sports &
 Social Club, Stone Lodge Lane,
 Redditch, Warwickshire (12.15);
 115 Pall Mall, SW1 (12.15); 600
 Group, Grosvenor House, Park
 Lane W1 (11.30); Statera Food
 Products, Brixton Lane, Newton
 Heath, Manchester (11.00).

NOTEBOOK

Mercentile House, while declaring
 full-year profits up from £14.4m to
 £44.7m, has made a one-for-one
 scrip issue. The issue should
 lighten the balance between
 assets and shareholders' funds.
 But can the profit growth be
 maintained?
 Trafalgar's bid for P & O has raised
 other takeover rumours from the
 depressed shipping industry, with
 the bait for possible bidders being
 saleable on shore assets and high
 tax write-offs allowed for vessels.
 Page 18

Japanese steel exports this
 year, led by shipments to China,
 are expected to pass the 30
 million ton level for the first
 time in three years. The
 recovery in volume should
 mean industry production will
 exceed last year's depressed
 levels.

Commons statement likely to call for more talks

Stock Exchange rule book deal with Government hits last-minute snags

By Philip Robinson

The Stock Exchange out-of-court settlement with the Government over parts of its rule book appeared in trouble last night. Speculation was growing that the final details of the Exchange's proposals designed to keep the rule book out of the Restrictive Practices Court has encountered eleven-hour problems.

The Government was due to make a statement to the House of Commons today signalling its intention to exempt the Stock Exchange rule book from the Restrictive Practices Act. This was to be in exchange for certain concessions from the Stock Exchange going some way to relaxing restrictions.

The statement will still be made, but it is likely to omit details of the full proposals, instead referring vaguely to the need for further negotiations.

The finer points of the settlement are being thrashed out by Sir Nicholas Goodison,

the Stock Exchange chairman, under delegated powers from the ruling council.

His adversary, Sir Gordon Borrie, the Director-General of the Office of Fair Trading, has not been involved in any of the settlement negotiations.

A statement of government intention is important if the court action brought by the OFT against the Stock Exchange is to be stopped.

Without it, the Stock Exchange would have no basis on which to seek an adjournment of the case before Mr Justice Lincoln tomorrow or Friday.

A key part of legal procedure of the case is set to take place on October 3-when both sides are due in court.

The Government will not be back from recess until late October and a statement this week is necessary to delay the legal machinery.

The last-minute hitches come against a background of fierce



Goodison, left, and Borrie: Government statements will stop action



opposition to the settlement from the Labour benches and Dr David Owen, the leader of the Social Democrats.

Mr John Fraser, Opposition spokesman on trade, has already written to Mr Alex Fletcher, the Minister for Consumer and Corporate Affairs, seeking details of how

the Government told the Stock Exchange it was prepared to drop the Restrictive Practices case.

He said yesterday: "Until we know this, there is some justification for the impression that the Exchange is being helped out by its friends".

Dixons seeks £21m in rights issue

By Wayne Lintott

Dixons Group, best known for its high street stores, announced a six-for-twenty-five rights issue to raise £21m with its higher full-year profit figures.

The rights issue is underwritten at 175p per share, a hefty discount on the market price of 200p which was down 15p on the news.

Having rationalized the loss-making film processing division, which was mainly responsible for lower interim profits, the group was able to report higher full-year pretax profits of £14m against £12.5m a year.

A final dividend of 2.64p was declared, making 4.09p for the year, up from 3.77p the year before. The £107,512 new ordinary shares being issued under the rights do not rank for the final dividend.

Mr Stanley Kalms, chairman said the main benefits of the rationalization programme were in pharmaceuticals where losses of £441,000 were turned into

£205,000 profits. Although film processing showed losses of £114,000 against profits of £671,000 a year ago a turnaround should be seen in the current year's figures.

Mr Kalms forecasts satisfactory profits for the current period with sales in the retail division substantially above those reported. Overall sales for the year rose to £238.3m from £251.3m a year earlier.

He said the company will expand its activities and will look for acquisitions of companies in complementary areas.

The rights issue cash will help finance the opening or re-opening of 30 stores, modernization of another 30 and improvements to a substantial number of its 260 sites.

Total capital costs are expected to reach £8m. Mr Kalms tells shareholders to expect at least a maintained dividend in the current year.

Acrow in new talks with bank

By Jeremy Warner

Acrow, the excavation equipment and bridge construction group has resumed talks with its bankers only six months after agreeing a framework with them to provide continuity of finance for the future.

The group was due to release full-year figures yesterday. But Mr James Cunningham, Acrow's managing director denied that the talks, which he described as a "constant process" in a group which is being supported by its bankers, were in any way connected with the postponement of the results.

He suggested that one reason for the delay was the amount of work involved in consolidating the results of overseas subsidiaries into earnings.

Mr Cunningham agreed that temporary breaches of covenants may have occurred since February's agreement with a dozen British overseas banks which provided continuing support in return for giving the bankers first priority over all the company's assets.

But Mr Cunningham said: "The figures were not put back because of talks with bankers."

The results will now be released a week tomorrow. In the six months to last September the group lost £3.8m before tax.

It is believed that Acrow's bankers may be pushing for the enforcement of the company's covenants.

Acrow's share capital structure gives Mr William de Viger, its founder and present chairman, strong voting power within the company.

Barclays Bank, which was responsible for organizing last February's refinancing package, last night refused to comment on the situation.

Foreign operations help NatWest rise

By Peter Wilson-Smith, Banking Correspondent

A strong performance by its international operations helped National Westminster to push up pretax profits from £214m to £230m in the first half of 1983, despite further big provisions for bad debts and a squeeze on domestic profitability.

NatWest held out the hope that bad debts could ease in the second half. Mr Philip Wilkinson, chief executive, said he hoped domestic provisions would level off and would not worsen on the international side.

However, in the latest six months, NatWest has set aside £135m of provisions - less than the £151m in the second half of last year but well up on the £78m in the same period a year ago.

NatWest has raised its interim dividend by 7 1/2 per cent to 11.4 per cent net. This is in

line with the pretax profit rise although a higher tax charge meant that earnings per share slipped from 82p to 74p.

Domestic bank profits have been under pressure from lower interest rates.

However, higher bank charges have partly compensated. Growth in sterling lending also accounted for most of the £1.1bn rise in balance sheet total during the latest six months to £55.6bn. However, domestic banking profits have still slipped from £138m or 53 per cent of the group total before loan interest in the first half a year ago to £98m or 35 per cent of the total.

Profits from international banking of £140m compared with £108m in the previous half and £89m in the same period a year ago.

Lower interest rates and cheaper pound hit Grindlays

IN BRIEF

Lower interest rates and foreign exchange losses are blamed for the £3m fall in pretax profits to £16.8m made by Grindlays Bank for the six months to the end of June. But the dividend is maintained at 5 per cent.

Grindlays has extensive business in South Asia, the Middle East and the Far East, but its main currency exposure is to the dollar. Interest rates are lower worldwide than a year ago, and the impact of the fall in Britain was noticeable on the company's business.

Extraordinary items of £2.64m were rather lower than in the previous year, and there was no repetition of the large bad-debt provisions. Nevertheless, the tax charge of £11.4m was not down much, so earnings per share declined from 11p to 7.8p.

● Gibbs expands: Hongkong Bank Group is planning to

expand Antony Gibbs, its London merchant bank, whose former chief executive, Mr David Macdonald resigned four months ago. Fresh capital will be injected, and Mr Ewan Lauder, chief executive of the group's Hong Kong-based merchant bank, Wardley, will move into Gibbs as chief executive for nine months.

● Satellite contract: Mr Rupert Murdoch, head of News International and chairman of Inter-American Satellite Television yesterday said that IAST had entered into an agreement with M/A-COM, of Burlington, Massachusetts, whereby M/A-COM will serve as system design consultants to assist IAST in designing and procuring ground equipment for its new satellite broadcast service.

LAST has leased five satellite transponders and plans to offer subscription television services via Direct Broadcast Satellite aimed at non-cabled households in the US beginning later this year.

● Gallaher 44 per cent up: Trading profits at Gallaher, the tobacco, optics and office products subsidiary of American Brands, jumped 44 per cent to £26m in the first six months of this year. Tobacco trading profits were up 30 per cent. Pretax profits, up two-thirds at £56m, benefited because lower borrowings helped reduce interest charges.

Shareholders' response to the capital reconstruction of troubled engineers Aurora Holdings was less than enthusiastic.

Attempts to raise £9m by the issue of 70 million-plus 9 per cent convertible cumulative preference ordinary shares at par resulted in acceptances for almost 30.5 million. The balance will be taken up by N. M. Rothschild. Dealings in the new shares start on August 1.

● Chrysler penalty: Chrysler has agreed to pay a \$45,000 penalty to the Government for allegedly failing to report that several Middle Eastern countries had asked it to take part in trade boycotts. The company neither admitted nor denied the charges.

Thomas Jourdan
 Half-year to 27.83
 Pretax profit £226,030 (£187,000)
 Scaled earnings 2.88p (2.48p)
 Turnover £2.96m (£2.4m)
 Net interim dividend 1.75p (same)
 Share price 102p, up 2p
 Yield 7.8%

Shares stage early rally

WALL STREET

New York (AP-Dow Jones) stocks were again moving higher after having turned mixed yesterday.

The Dow Jones industrial average recovered from a two-point loss and was up more than two points to above 1,235 in early trading.

Advancing issues were 7 to 6 ahead of declines. Trading was moderately active.

Mr Gary Aster, research director for Boettcher & Co, said that "with the mixed signs on the outlook for short-term interest rates we should see a lackluster performance over the next week or so."

General Electric was down 1/8 at 53 7/8; General Motors

up 1/2 to 75 5/8; Homestake unchanged at 35 5/8; Texas Instruments up 1 1/8 to 119 5/8; Honeywell down 1/4 to 124 1/4; Digital Equipment down 3/8 at 111; National Semiconductor up 7/8 at 37; Motorola up 1/4 at 144 5/8; PPG Industries up 1/4 at 67 5/8; American Home Products down 1/8 at 47 7/8; Distillers Corp was 31 3/8, down 1/4; NCR 126, up 1 1/2; Diebold 90 3/8, up 1 7/8; Teradyne 69 1/2, up 2 7/8; Diamond Shamrock 23, unchanged; Paradyne 18 3/4, down 2 1/2; Lorad Corp 56 1/4, down 1 1/2

Hawley buys £21m stake in US group

By Jonathan Clare

Hawley Group, the fast-moving holding company run by Mr Michael Ashcroft, has taken a large stake in a US security and cleaning business for £21.6m. The acquisition of the 40 per cent stake in Security Corporation of America (SCOA) complements the 51 per cent stake which Hawley holds in Electro-Protective Corporation in the US. The new security business operates under

the name of Holmes Protection Group of companies. SCOA also owns the National Cleaning Group of companies which fits in with Hawley's Provincial (formerly Provincial Cleaning Services) in the United Kingdom and the recently acquired Oxford Services in the US.

Hawley expects further developments in its security business which includes a US quote for

Electro-Protective Corporation, possibly taking in the Holmes security business, and perhaps by the end of this year. A United Kingdom public quote has also been promised for Provincial and the new public company would probably take in all the group's cleaning interests.

The stake in SCOA has been bought from Mr Jacques Mur-

Britain given 380,000 tonne quota increase

£170m revamp for steel plants

By Edward Townsend and Ian Murray

A £170m restructuring of British Steel Corporation's hot strip mill at Port Talbot in Wales, the biggest proposed investment in the steel industry for many years, will be given the go-ahead by the European Commission at the end of this week.

This was announced in the Commons yesterday by Mr Cecil Parkinson, the Trade and Industry Secretary, on his return from Brussels where a meeting of EEC ministers had agreed new steel production quotas for the European industry, including a 380,000 tonne increase for Britain to be split between the public and private sectors.

Mr Parkinson said he was given an assurance on the Port Talbot project by Viscount Eddison Davignon, the EEC Industry Commissioner.

The project, one of four BSC schemes costing a total of £256m and planned to start in 1983-84, will not create new jobs, but will make Port Talbot - a leading supplier of strip steel to the motor industry - one of the most efficient in the world.

The BSC's latest corporate plan envisages £665m of new investment in the next three years. Mr Nicholas Edwards, the Secretary, said the investment would ensure that Port Talbot, with the Llanwern



Parkinson: Britain well ahead on steel quotas

plant, remained among the most modern and competitive in Europe.

Earlier, Mr Parkinson said that Britain came out "well ahead" at the end of 12 difficult hours of negotiation in Brussels over EEC steel quotas.

The meeting agreed to roll over the existing emergency EEC controls on production until the end of next January, rather than agree to an extension until the end of 1985 as the commission wished.

permitted quotas and is refusing to pay fines imposed on it by the European Court.

According to Viscount Davignon, the fines now total £130m, and as long as Klockner continues to exceed its quota it is being subsidised by the rest of the European steel industry to this amount.

The commission called for a special study into the social implications of the restructuring of the steel industry. Up to 150,000 more jobs are to go by the end of 1985 if the EEC is to have a viable steel industry, it estimates.

Britain has been ordered to close a further 500,000 tonnes of its capacity as part of this restructuring programme.

According to Mr Parkinson this is to involve plant at Harrogate already scheduled to close and no extra jobs are likely to be lost. He also said that Ravenscroft would not close whether or not British Steel was to send steel to the US for finishing.

Dr Otto Lamsdorff, the West German economics minister, criticised a decision to extend existing quotas until January 31 instead of two-and-a-half years as sought by Bonn.

Dr Lamsdorff said it would have made sense to have extended until 1985 as the community also aimed to overhaul the industry by then.

Exports continued their promising growth. Overseas subsidiaries so far are slightly behind last year. Niemeyer is being affected by intense price competition in West Germany.

OPTICS Back payments by the DHSS for NHS work completed in the years 1978-1982, and the inclusion of Spain for the first time, have largely caused the exceptional rise in profits. Volumes in the UK have been steady and Spain has made a good start. Conditions in Italy remained difficult.

OUTLOOK Results for the year are expected to be satisfactory, but will not show the same rate of growth as in the first six months.

City Editor's Comment

North Sea mist over assets sale

The news that the Government is ordering British Gas to dispose of eight of its oil-prospective exploration licences is not exactly surprising - but it raises some interesting questions about the Chancellor's asset sale programme.

The most obvious explanation for the move is that the licences are to be lumped together with the British Gas stake in five proven North Sea oil fields to make a more attractive package for eventual flotation on the stock market.

The argument is that the oil fields, which are already earmarked for privatization in one form or another, are mature assets whose value can be determined fairly precisely by the actuary's slide rule. After Britoil and now the impending BP share sale, something more will be needed to make the City bite at yet more oil assets.

We do not yet know of course whether the British Gas oil assets will be floated, or sold piecemeal to other oil companies. If the exploration acreage is lumped in with the rest of the assets, however, it means the Government will be hard-pressed to complete a flotation before the end of this financial year, as it promised in last March's White Paper.

Mr Lawson's statement on Monday was carefully ambiguous on this, and indeed many points. If the sale does drag into next year, then something else - probably Cable and Wireless - will have to be brought forward if the £1.250m target is to be met.

Mr Lawson still has much clarifying to do. Before the Labour Party rushes to embrace the suggestion of Mr Roy

Hattersley made in a speech on Monday night that the City be more stringently regulated, it ought to take note of the difficulties at present afflicting the Securities and Exchange Commission, the regulatory body in the United States.

Lesson of the SEC

There the SEC is fast disappearing under a mountain of paperwork. The combination of budget cuts which have limited the numbers of staff, and a buoyant stock market which has brought a great upsurge in demand for new issues from companies, has meant it has difficulty coping with its workload. So companies face ever longer delays before they get the official clearance to raise money.

So far these delays have not caused too much tension, but that could change if the share prices began to fall, and companies realise they have missed their chances to raise money because of the bureaucratic delays.

The SEC could fall into disavowal too if under pressure to turn work round quickly it failed to pick up on a potential fraud. If it is already under fire for being allegedly less than vigilant in one case shortly to come before the courts after a substantial share issue last year.

It is therefore important for the Labour Party to remember that while the British system is far from perfect, there are no easy alternatives, and there are certainly no cheap alternatives to its present programme of self regulation. It does itself a disservice by ignoring this.

GALLAHER

44% increase in Group trading profit

Tobacco profits up 30% Non-tobacco profits up 66%

Pre-tax profit up 66% benefiting from decreased borrowing and lower interest rates

Unaudited results for six months ended 30th June 1983

	Six months ended	Year ended
	30.6.83	31.12.82
	£ million	£ million
Group Sales	1,250.4	1,053.9
Profit before interest	61.0	42.5
Profit after interest	55.9	33.6
		75.1

The audited 1982 results form part of the full 1982 accounts which were delivered to the Registrar of Companies. The audited report on those figures is on page 12.

TOBACCO Increased market share, which more than offset a decline in the total market, led to improved results in the UK, particularly in relation to a low second quarter in 1982.

Exports continued their promising growth. Overseas subsidiaries so far are slightly behind last year. Niemeyer is being affected by intense price competition in West Germany.

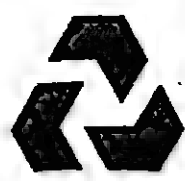
OPTICS Back payments by the DHSS for NHS work completed in the years 1978-1982, and the inclusion of Spain for the first time, have largely caused the exceptional rise in profits. Volumes in the UK have been steady and Spain has made a good start. Conditions in Italy remained difficult.

OUTLOOK Results for the year are expected to be satisfactory, but will not show the same rate of growth as in the first six months.

PUMPS & VALVES Underlying demand world wide shows little recovery. Results have benefited from reorganisation, and from drought conditions in Africa and Australia which have stimulated sales of bore-hole pumps. Our Italian subsidiary, FIP, has made good progress, particularly in the Middle East.

DISTRIBUTION Continuing the first quarter trend, the distribution companies have done well overall despite more difficult trading conditions in some of their markets.

OFFICE PRODUCTS Second quarter results showed an improvement over the first quarter, but the six months were below last year, largely as a result of non-recurring reorganisation costs. Full year results are expected to be ahead of last year.



National Westminster Bank Group

Interim Statement (unaudited)

In announcing NatWest Group Interim Results for 1983, the Chairman, Lord Boardman said:-

"We are pleased to announce a 7 1/2 % increase in our interim profit over the first half of 1982 despite heavy provisions for Bad and Doubtful Debts."

Comment on Results

Profit Comparisons

On a historic cost basis Group profit of £230m before tax for the first half of 1983 was up £16m (+7 1/2%) over 1982 first half and up £5m (+2%) over 1982 second half. On a current cost basis interim profits amounted to £187m compared with a re-stated figure of £145m for the 1982 first half.

Income

Average base rate for the half year fell to 10.39% (1982 first half 13.35%) but wider margins helped net interest income (up 9%). With strong growth in commission and foreign exchange income, total income increased by 19%.

Costs

Operating costs excluding the provision for bad and doubtful debts increased by 16% overall as compared with first half 1982, the rise over the second half was substantially less (4%). Staff costs rose by 3% on the second half.

Provisions

The increased charge to profits for the provision for bad and doubtful debts reflects our recent experience through difficult trading conditions. The cumulative provision of £583m, of which £201m is general provision, represents 1.4% of customers' and other

accounts. This compares with a figure of £508m (1.2%) at the end of 1982 of which £167m was general provision.

Divisional Contributions

The percentage contribution to profit before charging loan stock interest of each operating division was:-

	1983 1st Half	1982 2nd Half	1st Half
Domestic Banking	35	47	53
International Banking	50	39	34
Related Banking Services	15	14	13

The lower contribution from UK Domestic Banking reflects the adverse impact of provisions and a continued trend towards wholesale funding.

International Banking achieved a strong performance against difficult economic conditions at home and abroad. Improved profits from our North American business, all subsidiaries and higher foreign exchange earnings increased the divisional contribution to half the Group total profit before loan stock interest.

Related Banking Services again increased their contribution with higher profits overall.

Dividend

An interim dividend of 11.4p per share has been declared, an increase of 7 1/2 % over last year's interim dividend.

The following financial information contains abridged details from the full group accounts for the year ended 31 December 1982 on which the auditors gave an unqualified opinion. These accounts have been filed with the Registrar of Companies.

CONSOLIDATED PROFIT AND LOSS ACCOUNT (Historical cost basis - unaudited)

	Half-Year to 30 June 1983 £m	Half-Year to 31 December 1982 £m	Half-Year to 30 June 1982 £m
Trading Surplus			
The Bank and subsidiaries (Note 1)	217	208	200
Share of associated companies	13	17	14
Group profit before taxation and extraordinary items	230	225	214
Taxation (1982 restated) (Note 2)	51	19	18
Minority interests in, and preference dividends of, subsidiary companies	179	206	196
Preference dividend of the Bank	2	2	2
Group profit before extraordinary items	177	203	194
Extraordinary items	—	—	1
Group profit attributable to ordinary shareholders of the Bank	177	203	195
Ordinary dividend	27	44	25
Retained profit of the group transferred to reserves	150	159	170
Per Share			
Dividends	11.4p (interim)	18.4p (final)	10.8p (interim)
Earnings (Note 3) (1982 restated)	74p	85p	82p

SUMMARY CONSOLIDATED BALANCE SHEETS (Historical cost basis - unaudited)

	30 June 1983 £m	31 December 1982 £m	30 June 1982 £m
Shareholders' funds			
Liabilities			
Loan capital	962	933	698
Current, deposit and other accounts	51,143	50,196	43,449
Other liabilities	745	805	624
	55,554	54,487	47,164
Assets			
Liquid and short term assets	11,800	11,784	9,985
Due from customers, less provision	30,146	27,734	24,495
Market placings over one month	10,136	11,591	9,717
Assets leased to customers	1,558	1,857	1,563
Other debtors	337	233	234
Customers' and other accounts	42,477	41,475	36,009
Premises and equipment	1,100	1,063	1,019
Other assets	177	165	151
	55,554	54,487	47,164

NOTES

1. Analysis of trading surplus

	Half-Year to 30 June 1983 £m	Half-Year to 31 December 1982 £m	Half-Year to 30 June 1982 £m
Income:			
Interest income	2,507	3,067	2,975
Less: Interest payable (other than on loan capital)	2,037	2,238	2,271
Net interest income	470	829	704
Investment income	770	108	74
Commission and foreign exchange (Note 4)	295	229	184
Other income	33	31	29
	1,168	1,198	991
Expenditure:			
Personnel costs	498	496	439
Premises and equipment	138	124	117
Bad and doubtful debts (Note 5)	135	151	78
Other expenditure	146	136	110
Interest on loan capital	49	53	47
	966	950	791
Trading surplus	217	208	200

2. The charge for taxation assumes UK Corporation Tax at 52% (1982: 52%) and takes account of the Group's estimated deferred tax provision for the year as a whole. As a result of capital allowances for taxation in respect of assets leased to customers and fixed assets used in the business, for which full provision for deferred taxation has not been made, the charge for taxation for the current half-year is reduced by £24m (half-year to 31 December 1982: £28m, half-year to 30 June 1982: £25m).

Comparative figures for taxation for the half-year to 30 June 1982 and the half-year to 31 December 1982, have been restated to reflect the effective rate of tax applicable in the full year to 31 December 1982.

3. Earnings per share are calculated on the Group profit before extraordinary items and on the weighted average of ordinary shares in issue during the half-years.

4. Following the issue of Statement of Standard Accounting Practice No. 20, with effect from this half-year, exchange differences on restating opening net assets of overseas subsidiary and associated companies have been taken direct to reserves together with an equivalent amount of exchange differences on translating the foreign currency borrowings used to fund such investments; previously, all exchange differences, other than those relating to the restatement of opening fixed assets overseas, were dealt with in arriving at the Group trading surplus. Comparative figures for 1982 have not been restated as the effect of the change is not material.

5. The charge to Group profit for provision for bad and doubtful debts is in respect of:

	Half-Year to 30 June 1983 £m	Half-Year to 31 December 1982 £m	Half-Year to 30 June 1982 £m
Specific	101	120	68
General	34	31	10
	135	151	78

Interim Dividends

The Directors have declared an interim dividend for 1983 on the ordinary shares of 11.4p per share (1982 - 10.8p per share).

The interim dividend and the half-year's dividend of 2.45p per share on the Bank's preference shares will be paid on 31 August 1983 to shareholders registered on 5 August 1983.

CONSOLIDATED PROFIT AND LOSS ACCOUNT (Current cost basis - unaudited)

	Half-Year to 30 June 1983 £m	Half-Year to 31 December 1982 £m	Half-Year to 30 June 1982 £m
Trading surplus of the Bank and subsidiaries before deducting loan capital interest (1982 restated - Note (a))	266	266	258
Less: Current cost adjustments:			
- Monetary working capital (Note (b))	53	47	63
- Additional depreciation (Note (c))	6	6	13
	61	53	108
Share of current cost profits of associated companies	205	213	152
Current cost operating profit	11	17	11
Interest on loan capital	216	230	163
Less: Gearing adjustment (Note (d))	49	54	49
	20	15	31
	(29)	(39)	(18)
Current cost profit before taxation	187	191	145
Taxation (1982 restated)	51	19	19
	136	172	126
Minority interests and preference dividends	2	3	2
Current cost profit before extraordinary items	134	169	124
Extraordinary items	—	—	1
Current cost profit attributable to ordinary shareholders of the Bank	134	169	125
Ordinary dividend	27	45	28
Retained current cost profit of the Group	107	124	99
Current cost earnings per share (1982 restated)	56p	71p	52p

(a) The 1982 figures have been restated, by reference to the movement of the UK Index of Retail Prices during the periods, to allow for the effect of inflation.

(b) The monetary working capital adjustment has been calculated by reference to changes in the UK Index of Retail Prices (or the overseas equivalent).

(c) The additional depreciation charge is based on the excess of current cost values of premises and equipment over the values in the historical cost accounts.

(d) The gearing adjustment reduces the monetary working capital and additional depreciation adjustments by the proportion of capital, including deferred taxation, provided other than by shareholders' funds.

Copies of the interim Statement will be available to shareholders on request from The Secretary, National Westminster Bank PLC, 41 Lothbury, London EC2R 2BP.

National Westminster Bank Group

INVESTORS' NOTEBOOK edited by Michael Prest

Can Mercantile stay on top?

Mercantile House
Year to 30.6.83
Pre-tax profit £44.7m (£14.4m)
Stated earnings 73.7p (41p)
Turnover £298m (£273m)
Net final dividend 15p (10.5p)
Share price 335p Yield 3.4

Mercantile House has long been poised for promotion into a higher division, and the quantum jump in profits announced yesterday would appear to propel the burgeoning financial services group into the premier league. But the nagging reservation must be that it is easier to buy profits than to sustain them.

As expected, the Oppenheimer purchase, nearly timed to take full advantage of Wall Street's rapid advance, was the key factor. The brokerage house contributed £20.2m of total pre-tax profits after only eight and a half months in the group.

Given that Mercantile paid £91m for its position in New York, this cannot be a bad rate of return. Combining the different firms' managements and the continued strong activity on Wall Street must have extended the profits into the present year as well.

Another acquisition, Rouse Woodstock, for which a full year is included in these figures, also showed some promise. The profit contribution of commodity broking swung round from a £59,000 loss to £733,000. Mercantile is a very small player in this most dangerous of markets - although the company does not take positions on its own account - and the scope for expansion in commodity broking must be considerable.

But it would be unfair to suggest that all the improvement came from acquisitions. Money broking, the historic core of the group, raised pre-tax profits by £1m to £10.7m, showing how its share fell from two-thirds to about a quarter.

Against money broking, however, should be offset the ironic £1m loss on the London International Financial Futures Exchange operations. The current year should produce an improvement here.

The results from fixed interest broking in the United States and fund management are equally important. After generating respectively a £3.5m profit and an £11,000 loss in 1982, profits were distinctly higher at £9.6m and £6.34m. In part, the change in fortunes reflects market conditions, but

Return on capital by top shipping companies

	1978	1979	1980	1981	1982	5 year avg
UK Indust average	18.2	18.1	15.5	16.6	16.1	16.9
B & C*	13.5	13.0	10.9	11.3	11.8	12.1
European Ferries	22.2	21.5	21.1	11.8	12.2	17.7
Ocean	8.8	7.8	11.8	10.6	5.1	8.4
P & O	8.4	9.0	10.7	10.6	10.0	9.3
Major group avg	12.2	12.8	13.5	10.9	9.7	11.8
J. Fisher	31.4	24.9	24.1	20.7	18.7	24.0
LOFS	(0.7)	3.4	2.5	0.3	(12.7)	(1.4)
Lytle	7.8	12.1	18.0	18.6	(4.2)	10.3
Overall average	12.5	13.1	14.2	11.8	5.8	11.4

*Including investment income. **Year to March. ***On average capital employed.

Source: Phillips & Drew

it also points to the underlying maturity and confidence of Mercantile as a whole.

Nevertheless, having formed this group very quickly and having so far justified most of the decisions by producing the earnings, Mercantile now needs to demonstrate staying power. It is well placed to exploit a volatile financial system, but everything depends on management.

Shipping

On the face of it, shipping is much more buoyant than for a long time. Traillgar House's bid for P & O has been largely responsible for the sector as a whole out-performing the market by 8 per cent since March. Fundamentals also seem to be coming to this depressed industry's rescue.

Oil tanker charter rates have soared in the past month - even if only from comfortably below 20 on the world scale of rates, indexed at 100, to more than 30.

Scrap values are rising and the realization is growing that many laid-up ships will never be used again.

But there is a good argument for companies in the sector being vulnerable to takeover bids.

The key issue is that predators have traditionally moved in when the sector has been at the bottom of its prosperity cycle. And shipping fortunes can hardly sink much further.

On the contrary, with world trade likely to improve in the latter half of this year, and continue into next, shipping group profits are expected to show a sharp improvement next year.

Consideration of groups as a whole is important - for the deep-sea operations of two fleet owners, Ocean and P & O, have been sufficient to pull down their return on capital to about half Britain's industrial average in the past five years.

As a result, most shipping shares are standing at a stable discount to their asset value. But in most cases, a ready market for shipping assets make them a more saleable product than, for example, industrial machinery.

So, even in the most depressed conditions, a ship's market value signals a recovery potential.

The predators are also tempted up from the deep by tax considerations.

Takeovers can be fought off by offering up hastily revalued assets. But a return of these must be the plum - and, under present conditions it's difficult for owners to show how they can pick it. The industry likes to portray profit projections over the "next few years" - not the most tempting defence tactic.

The real question is: Do the shipping lines' on-shore assets look good enough to tempt more real bids into the open? Such clearly defined units can easily be disposed of at a profit - but will it be big enough to cover the left-overs?

Vantona Viyella

The more than doubled interim pre-tax profits of Vantona Viyella at £3.4m tends to support management claims of a rare feat, turning round a lame duck in a very short space of time. After the merger between Vantona and Carrington Viyella last February, Mr

David Alliance, Vantona's managing director, gave the banks little option save to turn the Carrington debt into £15m of pref shares. He reckons total reorganizational expenses will amount to a non-recurring £6.7m.

Redundancies have taken place more on the administrative side where the reduction of main offices from five to two resulted in 500 non-productive job losses. There were a further 300 on the factory floor. The overall workforce is 18,200.

Much of the improvement results from ensuring the most efficient plants work flat out. Business has been transferred and in some cases modern equipment switched to plants where it can be most efficient.

But, while market conditions for industrial plant and sites are in such a lacklustre state, excess will remain on the books as assets until they can be disposed of profitably.

Vantona Viyella
Half-year to 28.5.83
Pre-tax profit £3,380,000 (£1,802,000)
Stated earnings 7.4p (5.4p)
Turnover £121.1m (£48.8m)
Net interim dividend 5p (same)
Share price 150p
Dividend payable 1.10.83

The Carrington side of the business is trading in the black and the current rate of profits growth (over 50 per cent) has continued into the second-half. The group's £25m debt burden may also be lightened by increased profits, property sales and overseas deals.

A strong pound means cheaper raw material prices, which Vantona can exploit, to recapture that part of the domestic market lost to importers. The company will spend a further £15m on new plant this year to reduce labour costs, and are currently quoting cheaper prices on polyester products than the main importers.

The improvement in the loss-making uniform side continues apace but room for improvement is limited while the public-sector leans heavily on new costs.

The shares jumped 5p to 150p on the news and at that level reflect the market's appreciation of the job done, there is not much room for further gains especially as margins are wafer-thin.

COMPANY NEWS IN BRIEF

Renwick Group
Year to 3.4.83
Half-year to 30.6.83
Pre-tax profit £226,000 loss
(£108,000)
Stated earnings 1.8p (1.1p loss)
Share price 25p

Temple Bar Investment Trust
Half-year to 30.6.83
Pre-tax profit £1,621,000 (£1,514,000)
Interim dividend 1.5p (same)

Charles Booth
Half-year to 30.6.83
Pre-tax profit £59,000
Stated earnings 0.17p

Halite
Year to 30.4.83
Pre-tax profit £1,023,000 (£955,000)
Turnover £11,170,000 (£9,263,000)
Net final dividend 7.5p 7.0p
Dividend payable October 3

Hanover Investments (Holdings)
Year to 28.2.83
Pre-tax profit £175,000 (30,000)
Stated earnings 3.8p (3.5p)
Turnover £1.74m (1.83m)
Net dividend 1.85p (1.85p)

Diamond Stylus
Year to 31.3.83
Pre-tax profit £75,000 (loss)
(£55,000)
Stated earnings 2.4p (nil)
Turnover, £2.1m (2.03m)

W. S. Yeates
Half-year to 30.4.83
Pre-tax profit £582,000 (£215,000)
Stated earnings 17.4p (28.7p)
Turnover £15.5m (£14.8m)
Net interim 5.0p dividend (4.8p)
Dividend payable September 1

© Bremer Trust - The trust has bought R. Raphael and Sons and the remaining shares in Look Service Stations.

Surgical rally

Macarthy's Pharmaceuticals turned in unchanged pre-tax profits of £4.1m in the year to the end of April despite the 13 per cent downturn reported for the first six months.

The end of the industrial dispute in the National Health Service enabled the surgical company to improve sales and profits during the second half. The wholesale business showed markedly better figures during the last few months.

Base Lending Rates

ABN Bank	9 1/2 %
Bardays	9 1/2 %
BCCI	9 1/2 %
Consolidated Crds	9 1/2 %
C. Hoare & Co.	9 1/2 %
Lloyds Bank	9 1/2 %
Midland Bank	9 1/2 %
Nat Westminster	9 1/2 %
TSB	9 1/2 %
Williams & Glyn's	9 1/2 %

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Notice to EDR Holders

Notice is hereby given that at the Annual Shareholders' Meeting held in Tokyo on July 16, 1983, all proposals including the final dividend of Yen 4.25 per share were approved. Accordingly, The Chase Manhattan Bank, N.A. as Depository advises EDR holders that this dividend has been converted in U.S. Dollars and amounts to \$176.39 gross per EDR representing 10,000 Deposited Shares and \$12.64 per EDR representing 1,000 Deposited Shares. All presentations will be subject to deduction of Japanese withholding tax (20%) in the appropriate rates and approximate payments will be as follows:

EDRs representing 10,000 shares \$141.10 net or \$146.92 net after deduction of 20% of 15% Japanese withholding tax respectively.

EDRs representing 1,000 shares \$14.11 net or \$14.99 net after deduction of 20% of 15% Japanese withholding tax respectively.

The rate of tax deducted will depend upon the residential status of the beneficial owner and the application of any Double Tax Treaty concluded with Japan. Addressees will be required in all cases where a withholding tax of less than 20% is to be used.

Accordingly EDR holders may present Coupon No. 13 forthwith at the offices of The Chase Manhattan Bank N.A., Woolston House, Coleman Street, London EC2P 2ED or at Chase Manhattan Bank, Lombury or at Kreditbank S.A. Luxembourg, 43 Boulevard Royal, Luxembourg.

THE CHASEMANHATTAN BANK N.A., London as Depository.

July 1983.

This advertisement is issued in compliance with the

APPOINTMENTS

Directors
named
at GKN
Kwikform

W. A. Tyack: Mr A. Keith Gwynne Jones has been appointed to the board.

GKN Kwikform Holdings: Mr J. F. Reeve has been appointed chairman and Mr R. H. Coveney, Mr S. H. Doughty, Mr R. J. B. Jessop and Mr A. F. Walker directors.

GKN Kwikform: Mr Jessop has been appointed chairman, Mr M. J. Ormiston, managing director, and Mr C. G. Ainley, Mr A. Ingram, Mr D. G. Oldfield, Mr T. Palfreman, Mr W. Papegaa, Mr J. F. Reeve, Mr A. J. Smith and Mr D. Sykes have been appointed directors.

Korn/Ferry International: Mr Jean-Michel Beigbeder, former chairman of the board of Spencer Stuart Management Consultants, has become chairman and managing director of Korn/Ferry's new international executive committee to direct the company's worldwide expansion programme.

Arthur Young McClelland Moores & Company: Mr Barry E. Nichols has been appointed the first managing partner responsible for the British offices and operations.

British Rail Engineering: Mr Norman J. Hunter has been appointed managing director of public affairs.

Fincham Finance: Mr Paul Savage, company secretary, has been appointed to the board.

Legal & General: Mr Ron Peet, chief executive, will retire in June, 1984. He will become a non-executive director. Mr I. R. Martin, assistant pensions manager, is to be controller (managed funds); Mr M. Fordham, assistant pensions contracts manager, is to be superintendent (managed funds); Mr J. A. Furlong, training adviser (personnel) and Mr L. J. Martin, are to be superintendents (managed funds); Mr G. F. Peplow is to be superintendent (general insurance); Mr M. J. Essex, personnel manager, is to be personnel administration services manager; Mr B. V. Hart, administration manager, is to be pensions manager; Mr C. D. Pullan, assistant actuary, is to be controller (life planning); and Mr B. H. Wright is to be customer communications officer.

BIX International Services: Mr David Layton has been appointed to the main board.

Geover: Mr C. F. T. Moxon has been appointed a director.

Corporation's profits are more than those of ICI,
Beecham and M & S combined

For a time of recession, the gas business in Britain continues to generate cash for both the Government and the State-owned British Gas Corporation at a furious rate.

Yesterday's annual results from the corporation show that it has now topped British Telecom for the dubious accolade of being the largest single profitmaker in the public sector.

With current cost profits more than doubled at £663m (equivalent to £1,034m on the old historic cost basis), British Gas made more money last year than all but three or four of the leading companies in the private sector. Its profits were greater than those of ICI, Beecham and Marks & Spencer combined.

Despite funding an £800m capital investment programme entirely out of its own resources, the corporation still had £223m of cash to spare at the end of the year. And this was after paying the Government £196m in tax and another £470m in the form of the gas levy, that clever wheeze invented three years ago by Tory politicians to cream off some of the profits the corporation is making on its long-standing cheap supplies of gas from the southern North Sea.

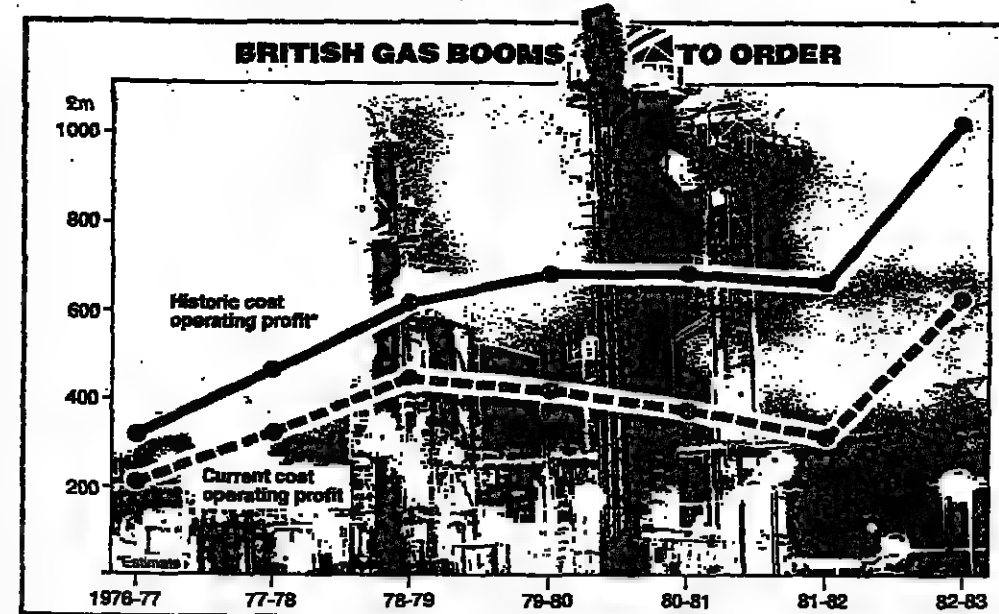
But this apparently mutually satisfactory state of affairs has done little to close the political and operational gulf between the politicians and the gas men, who continue to regard the Government's policy towards their industry as little short of crazy.



Walker: cordial relations

It is no secret that Sir Denis Rooke, the corporation's chairman, enjoys more cordial relations with Mr Peter Walker, the new Secretary of State for Energy, than he did with Mr Nigel Lawson, his more doctrinaire predecessor at the Department of Energy.

The arrival of a sympathetic sponsoring minister has, however, been more than offset by the translation of Mr Lawson to an important centre of power at the Treasury, where the key

Gas men again tell
Whitehall to
keep its hands off

decisions about nationalized industries will continue to be taken.

The changeover has done only a little to ease the fears of Sir Denis and his colleagues that more unpalatable medicine may shortly be prescribed for their industry.

Over the past three years, the corporation has opposed the Government's efforts to intervene in a business that the gasmen say it knows little about. For as long as was practicable, it has fought against the Government's orders to dispose of its valuable onshore and North Sea oil assets, actions described by one disgruntled board member (with half an eye trained on Mr Lawson's public spending problems) as "selling off the family silver merely to subsidize riotous living".

The corporation has also made it plain that it thought the Whitehall-inspired plan to raise domestic gas prices by 10 per cent more than inflation in a three-year crash course of "realistic energy pricing" between 1980 and last year was a case of "too much, too fast", even though it contributed to last year's record profits.

At the same time, Sir Denis

has campaigned against the gas levy on the grounds that it is the wrong way of raising money from the gas industry, especially when it simply recoups some of the extra income that the Government-ordained price rises had taken from domestic consumers in the first place.

Yesterday, Sir Denis returned to his theme that the politicians should leave his industry to get on with running what it regards as an already well-run operation without interference.

Referring to the need for modest, but steady, long-term increases in the price of gas, he said: "We should like this to be a gradual process rather than a succession of freezes and sudden jumps dictated by factors other than the needs of our customers and the business".

This, in nationalized industry speak, is straight code for "hands off", or (if you prefer) "no electioneering, please".

What the Government does next remains to be seen. Having theoretically broken British Gas' monopoly over gas supply with last year's Oil and Gas (Enterprise) Act, it is once again said to be studying plans to hive off British Gas' 900 high street showrooms to the private sector

— a move that holds little in the way of financial or political gain.

The manifesto at the last election spoke of extending the privatization of the gas and electricity industries, but concrete proposals have yet to surface. Hardliners in the Government such as Mr Lawson are doubtless still determined to make further inroads into British Gas' monopoly position, and generate further improvements in costs and efficiency.

British Gas' attitude to privatization has always been that — if it is to take place at all — it should take the form of privatizing the corporation as a whole, rather than selling off its profitable arms one at a time.

Despite pressure for such a move from a number of influential Tory backbenchers, there is no evidence that this route is practical, at least for the moment.

As with British Telecom, it would require the setting up of a regulatory authority, preparations for which would probably take several years.

The American experience of a regulated private sector gas industry — where the price and

safety regulations have distorted market forces far more drastically and illogically than the British monopoly could ever do — is not one to inspire confidence.

What is not in doubt is that British Gas has reached a plateau in its relentless rise to prominence as a generator of cash. Partly as a result of the disposal of the oil assets (which will cost British Gas £300m of cash flow over the next three years), its profitability is likely to decline in the next two years. After that it will start to rise again, but relatively slowly.

With the decline of the original North Sea gas fields in the next 10 years, the corporation faces a significant increase in the cost of its gas supplies, whether they come from Norway or from new fields in the North Sea. Mr Chris Brierley, managing director for economic planning, expects the average price of the corporation's raw materials to double in real terms from its present level of 11.6p a therm over the next 10 years.

On the demand side, the corporation is still expecting sales to rise from 16.8 billion therms to 19 billion therms by 1987/8. Half of this increase is expected to come from domestic consumers, particularly in central heating. It still sees no sign of revival in industrial demand, traditionally a reliable barometer of economic activity. Despite its 50 per cent price advantage over oil, the gas corporation has recently lost a few customers to heavily subsidized coal.



Rooke: steady increases

The corporation's workforce has been reduced from its peak of 106,000 two years ago to 101,200, and this rundown is expected to continue throughout the 1980s. This indicator of improved efficiency should at least go down well with the nationalized industry's critics in the Government and at the CBI.

Jonathan Davis

Industrial notebook

Sharper image for
machine tools

A magazine survey this week appears to give the lie to the Jeremiahs who declare that British manufacturing industry has gone into irretrievable decline largely for lack of capital investment.

The fifth survey of machine tools and production equipment from *Metalworking Production* magazine may not be a document that normally sets the country agog with expectation. But therein is evidence that a lot of the nation's factories have been rapidly and comprehensively re-equipped in recent years.

Gone are the days, it seems, when the predominant picture of industry was of a small band of highly ingenious workers keeping machines turning by using bits of string and prayers.

Machines less than five years old now account for 26 per cent of the total inventory compared with 18 per cent in 1976. Machine-buying during the 1970s now means that 39 per cent of the entire population of just under one million machines is under 10 years old.

When it comes to metal-forming machines — those that bend, press, shear and draw — almost half of those in the United Kingdom are under five years old compared with 41 per cent in Japan and under 29 per cent in the US.

Again, on an international scale, Britain's industrial productivity should be close to the competition judging by the rush to install high technology production equipment. Of the total machine tool population, 3.32 per cent are now numerically controlled (NC) machines, which beats West Germany's 2.2 per cent, America's 1.94 per cent, France's 1.86 per cent and even Japan's 2.84 per cent.

Significantly, the greatest growth in the use of NC machines has been in companies employing fewer than 50 workers. There has also been an admirable swing away from buying directly imported machines; the ratio on 59 per cent British origin and 41 per cent foreign has tipped in favour of home producers in the last five years despite the big sales pitches of the importers.

The British machine tool industry is now a shadow of its post-war self, but the remnants could still survive and prosper, and be able to combat the imports.

Edward Townsend
The Fifth Survey of Machine Tools and Production Equipment in Britain, Metalworking Production, Morgan-Grampian, 30 Catherwood Street, London SE18 6QH £22.

to instal 52,000 NC machines out of total expected purchases of 201,000.

Mr Ted Holland, the magazine's editor, adds: "The message that jumps out of the survey is that Britain now has the technology; our potential is immense. If our production managers have promoted and pursued their plans so effectively over the last five years, the reward must be encouragement to put all this advanced equipment to its best use."

"Determination to grow is the order for today. And that must include Government, public utilities, major manu-

facturers, and every metal-working shop down to the smallest sub-contractor."

Before there is too much euphoria, however, there are other figures in the survey which show that there is still much catching-up to be done. A third of Britain's machines are at least 20 years old, and while we may have more than 3,400 automatic assembly machines in operation this compares badly with the 17,265 in the US and the 23,839 in Japan.

Clearly, the Government and the financial sector could do far more to help manufacturing use its new high-tech hardware to the greatest effect. Sadly, neither has in recent years felt able to take big risks, preferring to blame poor demand and idle workers for industry's plight.

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ICI
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MARKET REPORT by Michael Clark

Boost to US sales hope gives Boots a tonic

ACCOUNT DAYS: Dealings began, July 18. Dealings end, July 29. Contango Day, Aug 1. Settlement Day, Aug 8.

American investors reckon they know a bargain when they see one. Yesterday they were buying shares in Boots, the high street chemist, as the shares soared 21p to a new high of 332p on word that the group's application to market ibuprofen over the counter in the US had been brought forward.

Ibuprofen is the active ingredient in Boots' anti-rheumatic drug Brufen, which has been available on prescription in this country for years. But under the trade name Advil, Boots hopes to market the drug over the counter in the US market and has already lined up a licensing deal with American Home's giant US drug distributor.

A spokesman for Boots yesterday told *The Times* that the application to market ibuprofen in America would be heard before an open committee meeting of the Federal Drug Administration on August 18, after which recommendations would be made. But he warned that the final go-ahead for the drug could be as far as two years off.

Analysts in the City reckon the deal could lead to a further surge in profits for the group which last year rose from £112m to £125m. It could certainly force brokers to upgrade their earlier estimates.

Meanwhile, Glaxo was enjoying a new wave of support rising 30p to 87p. A report in the *Wall Street Journal* estimates Glaxo has secured 7 per cent of new prescriptions in the anti-arthritis market in the first week alone.

The rest of the equity market was in a more confident mood after the overnight performance on Wall Street. Investors appeared to have shrugged off fears of an imminent rise in interest rates after the latest disappointing money supply figures over the weekend.

Sentiment was also helped by the better-than-expected trade figures showing a surplus instead of the feared deficit. As a result the FT index ended at its highest for the day 8.0 up at 708.9.

Among blue chips, BOC Group stood out with a rise of 16p to 238p helped by US buying of the shares. According to several London brokers the shares are being recommended to their clients by Merrill Lynch, the influential American broker.

Rises were also seen in Allied-Lyons 3p to 223p, Hawker Siddeley 2p to 308p, Lucas Industries 2p to 148p, Marks & Spencer 2p to 197p, P & O deferred 3p to 195p and Plessey 7p to 667p.

Shares of ICI were also a good market, 6p higher at 530p ahead of second quarter figures later tomorrow. The market is

looking for pretax profits of £260m for the first half with the second quarter chipping in with around £130m.

Glaxo spent a better day scoring gains of nearly £1 at the longer end of the market reflecting approval for the Government's fund raising proposals announced earlier this week. On the foreign exchange the pound rose 0.2 cents to \$1.5250.

BP rallied 4p to 394p after further reflection of the Government's proposals to reduce its stake in the group and raise about £500m in the process. Brokers estimate the Government will reduce its stake from the present level of 39 per cent to around 32 per cent, the third sell off of shares in the company in recent years.

The hot weather has been good news for Whitbread the

brewer. The shares sparked 8p higher at 142p as Mr Charles Tidbury, chairman, told shareholders at the annual meeting, that trade had been 10 per cent higher during the past few weeks of fine weather.

Production was at full stretch, but with output down around 12 per cent over the past three years, a 10 per cent rise during a hot summer was only likely to improve production by 1 per cent over the year. "This year got off to a bad start and as a result much of the good work of the present heatwave has only gone to restoring what happened in earlier months", Mr Tidbury said.

The interim figures from National Westminster proved better than expected with the group reporting an increase to £230m instead of the expected fall to around £205m. Last year it made £210m. But after fluctuating widely the shares ended the day 2p lower at 647p.

The market is worried about a possible £160m rights issue from Midland when it reports later today. Midland closed unchanged at 412p.

For the rest, Lloyds Bank, reporting shortly, added 6p to 357p, while Barclays, the last of the Big Four to reveal its figures, added 14p to 489p.

The spending boom in the high street has meant another

re-rating for stores shares which have been dull of late. Habitat Homecare responded with an 8p rise to 296p followed by British Home Stores 9p to 226p.

Oils still drew benefit from hopes of firmer oil prices. Ultramar rose 12p to 649p. London Scottish Marine Oil jumped 13p to 341p and Shell Transport and Trading added 8p to 576p. Britoil remained unmoved among the sector at 220p.

Willis Faber the insurance broker, has reduced its stake in Abingworth, the venture capital investment company, to below 5 per cent. It has sold a total of 500,000 ordinary shares and now owns a total of 564,710. Abingworth ended the day unchanged at 326p, after 328p, while Willis Faber slipped 2p to 528p.

Metal Sciences, the shot blasting grimmer, made a spectacular debut on the Unlisted Securities Market with the price almost trebling in first-time dealings. Statham Duff Stoop, the brokers, will be more than pleased with the group's reception after making an offer for sale of 10.8m shares at 11p.

The issue was about 108 times oversubscribed with investors ploughing more than £124m into the issue.

As a result applications were heavily scaled down. The shares opened at 28p and at one stage hit 30p before closing at 29p - a premium of 18p. The group is out of the London Venture Capital stable, which bought Bio-Isolates to market, and hopes to be making profits from its BritGrit process by next year.

Shares of Fidelity Radio went ex rights yesterday falling 5p to 160p following its recent cash call for £4m on the basis of one-for-three at 145p. The directors of the group have made a placing of 654,000 new ordinary shares at 15 1/32 nil paid to help them take up the balance of their entitlement amounting to 67,000. Following the rights the board will own 2.5m shares of 19.8 per cent of the total.

Fidelity, which makes cordless telephones for British Telecom, has forecast pretax profits of not less than £2.2m in the current year. Baird & Eves, the Essex estate agent, has bought its rival Curson & Poole for £770,000. Baird, which was the first estate agent to go public when it came to market only last year, made an initial payment of £250,000 for the nine offices and goodwill of C & P with the remaining £520,000 to be paid in stages over the next two years.

The group hopes to integrate the new offices by the end of this year and to contribute to profits during 1984. Shares of Baird rose 4p to 91p.

Tried pubs likely to get to court

By Derek Harris, Commercial Editor

Mounting legal difficulties are emerging in the application of EEC regulations affecting "tied" brewery-owned tenanted public houses.

There is an increasing threat of test cases going before the courts when the regulations really begin to bite at the beginning of next year. Before then, however, an attempt is likely to be made in Britain to iron out problems through informal talks.

These are now expected between individual brewers, the National Union of Licensed Victuallers, which acts for tenants, and the Federation of Wholesale Distributors, whose members include wholesale grocers and cash-and-carry businesses. The NULV is expected to decide this week whether to open discussions with brewers.

The three groups are also expected to raise detailed questions with the European Commission, which has promised to produce, by the end of the year, a set of guidelines for the application of the regulations that started at the beginning of this month.

The Competitions Directorate's office in Brussels has said that several issues may need to go before the courts to be decided. This is because the regulations are written in broad-brush fashion aimed primarily at increasing competition, particularly between the different national markets within the EEC.

Mr Eric White, of the competitions office, gave a further warning. "The most important rule on interpretation is that a course of action should be chosen in line with the intention and the spirit of the regulations. If you want to argue about the precise words, don't bother."

This remark could be particularly relevant to part of the regulations which allow a pub tenant to buy drinks, such as wines and spirits, outside the tie if a brewer does not meet more favourable terms offered by an outside supplier.

The regulations, according to one translation, talk of "more favourable conditions", but a guidance note mentions only prices.

All the British interests are still studying the legal implications of the regulations which at any rate leave the tie intact on draught beer - except to the possible extent of letting Guinness draught stout into more outlets.

But the tenants could become freer to take in non-beer drinks and competitive beers and competitive bottles packaged in cans and bottles, including lagers from continental companies.

Coe faces Cram and a strong foreign field at Gateshead

By Pat Batchelor

Sebastian Coe has decided to get a guide to his 800 metres form before the world championships by running that distance in the Gateshead invitation meeting on Sunday. Coe faces not only Steve Cram, the local favourite, and European and Commonwealth 1,500 metres champion, but also a field which would regale a major championship.

Peter Elliott and Gary Cook, the two Britons who will accompany Coe to Helsinki at 800 metres, are in the line-up with Peter Bourke, of Australia, the Commonwealth champion; Mike Boit, of Kenya; James Mays of the United States, and William Wyke, of Venezuela, who won last Sunday's AAA championship when Steve Overt dropped out.

Overt has also confirmed that he will be running the 1,000 metres at Gateshead. His opponent will be a 1,500 metres runner, Mike Hillman of Australia, but the main interest

in Overt will be to see how he has recovered from the gashed foot and torn muscle fibres that caused him to drop out of the AAA race.

A good win for Coe would give him the confidence boost that he needs after his successive defeats at 1,500 metres and one mile. In the race against Steve Scott, of the United States, last Saturday, Coe never got in a position to threaten the American, and even Scott seemed embarrassed by the ease of his victory.

Steve Cram, who is using the race as preparation for his 1,500 metres in Helsinki, is eager to defend his unbeaten record at Gateshead Stadium since 1980. Cram said yesterday "I would obviously like to beat Coe over his speciality distance in front of a Geordie crowd, but I don't consider myself an 800 metres runner. If I beat Coe over 800m then is obviously something for me."

Even though Coe has been showing considerably less than optimum form over 1,500 metres and one mile, his 800 metres races this season have had all the hallmarks of his world record-breaking form. He set a new world best at Coesford for the 800 metres in March, and even after his first 1,500m defeat, by Gonzalez of Spain in Paris five weeks ago, Coe went to Oslo four days later and set the fastest time in the world this year of 1min 43.89sec for 800 metres. Cram's best this season is 1min 46.36sec.

The runner most people would like to have seen in the 800 metres is, of course, Overt. He reacted strongly to the selectors ignoring his claims for an 800 metres place at the world championships, and a first run from Overt in Gateshead would have been the best possible riposte.

Keith Connor's ankle injury has improved, and he will rejoin battle with Willie Banks, of the United States, in Gateshead. Their contest should be a fine preview of two weeks hence in Helsinki.

SWIMMING

Taking the road to Rome

Adrian Moorhouse carries British hopes for gold in the European swimming championships in Rome from August 20-27. The 19-year-old Commonwealth Games champion from Leeds is selected for the 100 and 200 metres freestyle in the British team announced yesterday.

Moorhouse won the ASA national championship at Coventry on Friday in 1min 04.09sec, the fifth fastest time in the world this year, and only Valerio and Kis, the Russian pair, look capable of standing in his path in Rome.

Britain has not won a European championship gold medal since David Wilkie's success in 1974, while the last women to win one was Anita Lonsborough 23 years ago. The medal chances are slim again this time, with only Janet Croft (100m freestyle), Ann Ogilvy



Moorhouse: a golden smile (batterly). Jackie Wilmore and Sarah Hardcastle (400 and 800m freestyle) providing realistic hopes apart from Moorhouse.

Sarah Hardcastle, from Essex, who is only 14, is the baby of the team and she also competes in the 400 individual medley, but the fastest member of the squad will be John Davy, the allrounder from Milton Keynes. Out of action for four months earlier in the year because of a shoulder injury, Davy has fought back to fitness so well that the selectors have named him for five individual events and a relay.

Three swimmers who achieved the slower of the qualifying standards for Rome, Linda Croftle (butterfly), Sandra Bowman (breaststroke), and Maria Scott (400m individual medley), must out on not to gamble on Stephen Poulter, a Commonwealth Games silver medal winner at 400 metres individual medley, who missed the national championships because he is still suffering from the after-effects of glandular fever.

1983 100m freestyle: D. Lowe, 1:04.09; 200m freestyle: J. Croft, 1:46.36; 400m freestyle: J. Davy, 4:00.00; 800m freestyle: S. Hardcastle, 1:46.36; 1500m freestyle: J. Croft, 1:56.00; 1 mile: J. Croft, 8:00.00; 1.5 mile: J. Croft, 12:00.00; 2 mile: J. Croft, 16:00.00; 2.5 mile: J. Croft, 20:00.00; 3 mile: J. Croft, 24:00.00; 3.5 mile: J. Croft, 28:00.00; 4 mile: J. Croft, 32:00.00; 4.5 mile: J. Croft, 36:00.00; 5 mile: J. Croft, 40:00.00; 5.5 mile: J. Croft, 44:00.00; 6 mile: J. Croft, 48:00.00; 6.5 mile: J. Croft, 52:00.00; 7 mile: J. Croft, 56:00.00; 7.5 mile: J. Croft, 60:00.00; 8 mile: J. Croft, 64:00.00; 8.5 mile: J. Croft, 68:00.00; 9 mile: J. Croft, 72:00.00; 9.5 mile: J. Croft, 76:00.00; 10 mile: J. Croft, 80:00.00.

CRICKET

Reshaping the Oval for 1984

By John Woodcock, Cricket Correspondent

Things are happening at the Oval. After last week's NatWest Trophy match between Surrey and Warwickshire work started on demolishing the old press box, which had been little changed since the turn of the century, when silence was observed and the clichés, though more ornate, were otherwise the same.

The new development at the Pavilion end, which is hoped will be completed by April 1984, will include 19 new housing blocks in the Taverners and Mound Stands to the right of the Pavilion, that is, as you look out of it.

Boxes at sporting events are so much in demand and such an invaluable source of revenue that it is no wonder so much regard is paid to the design of the boxes. The Oval has only one row of them. The idea of a second row, which was in the original plans, was rejected by MCC members at an annual general meeting in 1981. Oxfordshire, as the 1982 champions, do not appear to be on the road to joining an elite list.

Buckinghamshire are now favourites to win the western division. The spinners, Lyon with five wickets and Milton with three, bowled Oxfordshire out with three overs to spare.

Bowlers, particularly of the slow variety, are carrying off most of the season's laurels. In the past week

potentially dangerous. Thanks to the generosity of the London Brick Company, and an arrangement which has been reached with the Brick Development Association, Training Services, whereby much of the work is being done by trainees, the cost to the Surrey County Cricket Club, rather than being in the region of £1m, will be one twentieth that amount.

Consideration is being given, as well, to ways and means of putting the playing area at the Oval to fuller use in the close season. But it is at the Pavilion end where the biggest and most important changes will take place. Surrey have launched an appeal for £1,250,000 to build an indoor cricket centre, to be named after the late Ken Barrington.

For some time Surrey, with their landlords, the Duchy of Cornwall and the Borough of Lambeth, have been discussing how the Oval might be made more available to the local community. To this end the Surrey County Cricket Club Youth Trust have been formed to help create the best facilities.

The cricket centre will be essentially a large sports hall, with seven indoor cricket nets and facilities for six-a-side football,

Lyon's turn to win the crown?

By Michael Berry

Uneasy lies the head that wears the crown in the Minor Counties. Of the existing members only Staffordshire, Buckinghamshire and Durham have managed to win the county championship in two successive seasons.

Staffordshire and Buckinghamshire both achieved the feat in the early 1920s and Durham did it during their recent dominance in 1980 and 1981. Oxfordshire, as the 1982 champions, do not appear to be on the road to joining an elite list.

Buckinghamshire are now favourites to win the western division. The spinners, Lyon with five wickets and Milton with three, bowled Oxfordshire out with three overs to spare.

temacious opener but now goes in as low as eight or nine.

In the eastern division Durham bowled out Lincolnshire for 62 at Lincoln to gain their first win of the campaign. Greenwold, finished with 13 wickets and Range Nanan, a West Indian recruit to the Durham side, contributed an immediately enjoyable and valuable innings.

Included because of the unavailability of Davis, the Australian fast bowler, Nanan hit an unbeaten 50 in only 29 minutes to equal the second fastest half-century in Durham records.

Cope, the former Yorkshire off-spinner, suffered most, conceding three massive sixes, but his five wickets in the second innings took him past 100 for Lincolnshire in only his third season.

Young talent blossoms in the garden of England

Sharply blow the winds of change

Kent is a good place to be in these days - and not merely for the blooms. The county cricket XI, mostly home-grown, is blossoming in a way which suggests it could become the equal of the side of the late sixties and seventies.

Of all the English counties Kent is the oldest, in historical terms, and perhaps the proudest, in cricketing terms. In 11 years up to 1978 Kent won 11 major trophies, always through purposeful cricket. Sometimes it touched peaks of brilliance. Three players of that era, Colin Cowdrey (who with Leslie Ames fashioned the success), Alan Knott and Derek Underwood, will forever be regarded as great cricketers. Denness, Luckhurst and Asif were prominent Test players of the day; and others, such as Falham, Shepherd and Johnson, were consistent in performance and loyalty.

It was in 1976 that deadly nightshade first sprouted in the garden of England. Cowdrey and Ames had by now both retired, the helm was Denness, a man marginalised by the press yet liked even by Ian Chappell. That autumn, Denness, having won two trophies for Kent in the summer, left the county in acrid circumstances after an extraordinary misunderstanding over his future with the chairman, John Pocock.

Asif, the Pakistani, took over and led Kent to a joint championship, but more trouble was brewing off the field. He, Knott, Underwood and Woolmer had signed for World Series Cricket - and had been dismissed by the county committee, a decision which Ames found "repugnant and distasteful".

A protest group was formed; members fell into two camps. Eventually the committee reinstated the four, and were promptly accused of self-interest. They could not win. The team, though, under Falham, pugnacious batsman, superb fielder and delightful man. Kent, with their World Series quartet available for the whole summer of 1978, won both the championship and the Benson and Hedges Cup.

Yet the tumbrils were soon to roll again. After two barren years Falham, by his own admission not ideally suited to captaincy, was dropped. For the opening match of the next season he carried the drinks tray. The end was nigh, too, for Shepherd, who departed in a similar fashion to Denness. Kent's supporters, who are considered to be among the most loyal in the land, were not amused. By this year membership had fallen by almost 50 per cent from its level in the years of glory.

Sharply have the winds of change

blown. This season Kent are being led by a new combination: Luckhurst, the solid professional, as manager, and Tavare, of whom much the same can be said, as captain. There is an air of permanence about it, and of ambition. "We want to be remembered as the Kent side of the eighties," Tavare stressed. "Not as the side that followed the Kent XI of the seventies."

Four men survive from the Cowdrey-Denness era: Knott, who is still, Luckhurst feels, the best wicketkeeper/batsman in the world; Underwood; Woolmer; and Johnson. Then there are what Luckhurst terms "the intermediates": Tavare, Jarvis, who almost made the England team last year, Chris Cowdrey, having, tested successfully, it seems, to escape his father's shadow; and Dilley.

Dilley, seen now (for the second time) as England's fast-bowling saviour, will be in the spotlight for the rest of this summer; so, too, will the new faces. Luckhurst, who is not one to make rash statements, believes that Potter, the Bexley-born, Australia-bred opener, will be an England batsman within the next 18 months.

But Kent's batting strength is considerable, so much so that Potter has spent most of this season becalmed in the pavilion. Chosen ahead of him were Woolmer, who, doubtless fearing youth might supersede him, has had a marvellous season, and Taylor, with whom Potter might one day be opening for England.

Switching between opening and a middle-order place is Benson, the chunky left-hander of whom Luckhurst says: "He has considerable natural ability and a reasonable chance of reaching Test level. His strength lies in playing the ball through the 'V' between mid-on and mid-off. Unfortunately, though, it is not the best time to be pressing for a place in England's middle-order."

Then there is Aslett, who scored a century on his debut in 1981 and by sheer weight of runs has forced his way into the side, and Hinks, of whom little other than promise is yet known. And along the seemingly endless conveyor belt of talent, another Cowdrey is emerging: Colin Cowdrey's third son, Graham, aged 18, who, we'd like to think, could be the best of the three. He has already made his mark in the second XI.

With Chris Cowdrey not thought of as an all-rounder in the three-day game, the position that Shepherd occupied for so long is there for the taking. Vying for it are Ellison, who released Shepherd because Ellison couldn't be held back, Luckhurst says - and Penn, who comes from the



Young men of Kent: above, Taylor and Potter; below Benson and Aslett



quaintly named club, River Woodpeckers, and played for Young England last season. The gulf between them is as narrow as that which separates Waterson and Marsh, the two reserve wicketkeepers. A measure of their ability is that Knott is not assured of a new contract next year, and that Kent had few qualms over releasing Dowton to Middlesex.

Where, then, does all this talent spring from? Kent, of course, is a big county with a big population. So many of their cricketers come from the London suburbs and the cluster of Medway towns. Their youth policy, directed by Colin Page - not the easiest of men but perhaps the best judge of a young cricketer there is - is second to none.

There was the time when Page discovered Falham. "The first ball he received was tunked over extra-cover's head for four. We all wondered what on earth was going on, but soon realized that there was a style that would serve Kent for years to come."

Style and talent. Kent once again have plenty of it.

Ivo Tennant

Record earnings at Commerzbank

Frankfurt (AP Dow Jones) - Partial operating earnings of Commerzbank rose 130.4 per cent to a record DM467.9m (£120m) in the first half of 1983 from DM203m in the same period last year according to an interim report.

Commerzbank says it is confident of matching in the course of the summer, the operating result of some DM500m achieved in all of 1982.

The bank's advances in the first half offered strong support to a pledge made earlier this year by Herr Walter Seipp, managing board chairman to resume dividend payments for 1983 after three barren years.

Commerzbank's last dividend of DM8.50 a share offered for 1979 is not likely to be

matched first time, but Frankfurt banking sources expect the bank to begin with a dividend of about DM6 a share to approach parity levels of other major Frankfurt banks.

Partial operating earnings are calculated from net interest earnings and net commission income. The bank said a 30 per cent increase in interest earnings came alongside improved refinancing operations.

Commerzbank noted a similar improvement in overall operating earnings in the first half, which includes trading on its own account in securities, precious metals and foreign exchange.

The bank cautioned that a portion of this year's income will be allocated to risk reserve to hedge against bad loans.

Consensus rates extension likely

By John Lawless

Western countries will go on subsidizing exports to the developing world under the consensus agreement until October - but only if the EEC agrees to the immediate introduction of changes to the so-called low interest rate currencies.

Talks on renewing the consensus rates have broken down twice this month, because of the opposition of France, weakly supported by Italy. Technically, the agreement which allows subsidized export loans to be made to developing countries, ended on July 15.

But the member countries of the organization of Economic Cooperation and Development are known to be sticking to their "gentlemen's agreement" to give their EEC members time to agree - that is, persuade France to agree to new minimum rates. Everyone expects that a failure to agree and a free-for-all on rates would be "disastrous".

But the OECD will sanction an extension only if the EEC, as a whole, sanctions the introduction of LIRCs this week. Again, France is objecting.

LIRCs offer considerable advantages to exporters in countries experienced in using them, enabling deals to be done at anything between 1.3 per cent and 3.7 per cent below consensus rates.

Britain is acknowledged as being the world leader in foreign currency financing, which was made mandatory six years ago. The first deals were done in US dollars, but since then UK exports have been financed in everything from Deutschmarks to Hongkong dollars, and the first 60 loans in yen the only significant LIRC presently being negotiated.

France is scrambling to catch up, having made foreign currency financing a legal requirement earlier this month.

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The charming Senior Partner of a medium-sized firm of Chartered Accountants, near Macclesfield, needs a confident, intelligent, personable, and efficient PA to assist in all aspects of his busy and varied work. You will have a second secretary to help you and in addition to good shorthand and typing skills, you should have an 'A' level education and be able to think on your feet.

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Age 21+ £7,500 neg. + all banking benefits
Excellent opportunity to join leading Merchant Bank (office close to Liverpool Street Station) good sec skills & admin ability.
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Well paid PA/Sec. 24-35, needed for established house in Mayfair. Excellent salary and benefits. Salary £7,500.
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Mornings only
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This is a chance for a well educated, well spoken and well qualified secretary to have the status, responsibility and interest of a top job while working only four hours a day. You'd be joining a highly successful organisation and working with the secretary to its most senior management the Chief Executive, Deputy Chief Executive and Chairman. Maturity, (30+) and recent work experience are important, as are good shorthand and typing coupled with a pleasant telephone manner and a highly methodical approach to your work. Hours will be 9.00am - 1.00pm or 9.30am - 1.30pm, if you prefer. In addition to a salary of £4,000, you'll enjoy many of the company benefits afforded to full-time staff including free BUPA, and generous holidays. So, if you want an interesting part-time job and are prepared to turn your hand to practically anything, then write with a full C.V. stating the names of any companies to which your letter should not be sent, to: Alan Spilman.

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Well presented and genuine PA/Secretary required for Chairman and Managing Director of investment company based in St. James's.

Must be able to cope with the aspects of what a personal assistant is required to do, in particular, administrative ability and elementary book-keeping. Although the position does not entail much dictation secretarial skills must not be less than 110 wpm shorthand and 70 wpm typing.

Applications are accordingly invited from persons who are within the age range of 35-45 years, are presently earning not less than £10,000 p.a. and who have at least 5 years' experience in a commercial and/or financial environment.

Please reply in own handwriting with full CV to Box 1703H The Times

All applications will be treated in the strictest confidence.

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£7,000 COVENT GARDEN

The M.D. of a recently formed subsidiary of a major organisation requires immediately a bright, hard-working secretary. To join them at this early stage of their development they are looking for a self-motivated secretary who can provide the managing director with a comprehensive secretarial and administrative service. In addition to good shorthand and typing skills the applicants must be prepared to work as part of a small enthusiastic team.

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We urgently require a SECRETARY in the Faculty Office to assist the Faculty Clerk in the day to day operation of this busy office, dealing with a variety of Faculty business and the admission of students to the College through the UCCA procedures.

It is envisaged that after a suitable period of training, the successful applicant will be sufficiently experienced to take over the post of Faculty Clerk Grade 4 post (£7,245 - £8,345 p.a.). There is in addition to the normal secretarial skills (shorthand and typing), applicants should possess initiative and tact as well as be able to handle enquiries from students and staff. University of London or similar would be advantageous.

Salary initially on Scale of £5,257 - £7,948 p.a. Four weeks' holiday plus extra days at Christmas and Easter. Please apply in writing, giving full personal and career details, to Mr S. A. Collett, Assistant to the Secretary, King College London, Strand, London WC2R 2LS, or telephone for an application form to 01-823 8454, ex 2265 or 2266.

SECRETARY/PA

c. £7,500 p.a.

The Company Secretary of a private Property Investment Company based in Central London requires a Secretary/PA. The person appointed will have good secretarial skills to a responsible attitude, the experience and the organisational ability to cope with the demands of the position. Negotiable salary plus usual fringe benefits.

Please write with C.V. in confidence to advise either a daytime or evening telephone contact number to D.A. Mevies

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Your own office as Senior Secretary/PA to the partner of a well established firm of Chartered Accountants, near Macclesfield, needs a confident, intelligent, personable, and efficient PA to assist in all aspects of his busy and varied work. You will have a second secretary to help you and in addition to good shorthand and typing skills, you should have an 'A' level education and be able to think on your feet.

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Watford SECRETARY PERSONNEL ASSISTANT £8,000

Watford based medical supply company requires an experienced secretary to work for the Managing Director and also to act as a personal secretary to the Managing Director. Duties will include dictation, typing, and general secretarial duties. The successful candidate will be a mature, personable and medically qualified. Salary £8,000 p.a. plus benefits. Please apply in writing to: Mr P. De Paula, c/o Chaumet Ltd, 177 New Bond Street, London W1T 5PD

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Major Organisation Leeds, to £8,700 + benefits

The client is a major national organisation and employer, currently undergoing an interesting period of change and development. The Director of its Northern operation requires a Secretary and Assistant of the highest calibre to organise his varied and demanding workload. Aged 30-45, candidates should be able to demonstrate a first class career record at the highest levels of industry, commerce or government, have exceptional secretarial skills, including 100 wpm. shorthand and a tactful pleasant personality with good communication skills. There is a private office which is well equipped with its own wordprocessor (training can be arranged). This is an excellent long term career opportunity with generous benefits including relocation assistance if necessary.

P.A. Adderley, Ref: 11484/T. Male or female candidates should telephone in confidence for a Personal History Form 0532-448661. Minerva House, East Parade, LEEDS, LS1 5RX.

Personal Assistant

to the Public Relations Director c£8,000 p.a. Gatwick

British Airports own and manage seven airports in the UK including Heathrow and Gatwick, two of the world's major international airports.

With the recent appointment of a new Public Relations Director, we are now looking for an experienced Personal Assistant to work for him at our Head Office at Gatwick Airport.

In addition to providing a first-class secretarial service, you will be responsible for undertaking the wide range of administrative tasks expected of an experienced P.A., including answering letters on the Director's behalf, ensuring he is adequately briefed for meetings, and generally co-ordinating the day-to-day activities of the office.

Our need is for someone with excellent shorthand, typing and audio skills who has had considerable experience of working at senior management level. They must have proven organisational ability, the maturity to work effectively on their own initiative and complete integrity when dealing with confidential information. Previous experience of working in a P.R. environment would be a distinct advantage.

If you have the ability and experience that we are looking for, telephone for an application form on Crawley (0293) 595299 (24 hour answerphone).

British Airports

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Finance EC1 Investment Banking, EC2

We are a leading, international financial organisation presently seeking three experienced secretaries for the following varied and interesting positions:

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SENIOR SECRETARY to work for two bankers: one involved with our Italian business, the other with Austria and Germany, but this is not a bi-lingual secretarial position.

All applicants must have a minimum shorthand/typing standard of 100/60 wpm, and a familiarity with word processors would be helpful. Salaries ca £8,000 p.a. Benefits include L.V.'s, interest-free season ticket loan, medical coverage, life assurance and pension.

Please send C.V. (with contact telephone number where possible) to Merrill Lynch Holdings Ltd, Personnel Dept., 27 Finsbury Square, London EC2A 1AQ. (No agencies)

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to £7,500

The Secretary General of an international organisation representing the world's copper industry requires a well educated, experienced Secretary able to work unsupervised, often under pressure. Organising ability and a good working knowledge of French are essential. Word-processing experience will be an advantage.

Please apply in writing enclosing CV to: WCC, 6 Bathurst St, London W2 2SD.

WELL ORGANISED SALES SECRETARY

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Secretary/PA

Global newsletter seeks high IQ, numerate, non-smoker, non-clock watcher, conscientious, conservative, glib 21-35. Computer exp. helpful, prev. uncomm. related. Offers long hours, high pay, challenge, education, pos. travel, variety, demanding work. SW3 Bond C.V. and photo to: Mr B Brown 170 Stone St, SW3

£9,500 +

01-730 5143 (Rec. Cons.)

THE WORLD OF MUSIC £5,500

Join the well known Record Company as Secretary to their young dynamic and very successful Managing Director. Deal with the day-to-day administration, enjoy a lot of interesting detail and the chance to discuss our range of temporary and permanent legal secretarial positions. If you have 17 years' legal experience, good secretarial skills and a keen eye for an excellent opportunity then join us in the Theatre.

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In return we offer a salary c£7,250, clothing allowance and of course, discount on our shoes.

If you are interested, please ring Sue Newman on 01-631 4222.

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A key Director to an International Computer Consultancy needs a Personal Assistant.

Applicants should be well organized, efficient, able to exercise initiative, and possess first rate secretarial skills. The PA must be able to work unsupervised while the Director is abroad on business trips, and to contribute to the growth of the company, liaising closely with clients and the top DMW consultants.

Starting salary £7,300, plus excellent fringe benefits.

Please send a detailed Curriculum to:

Mrs. A. Mills-Thomas
The DMW Group Europe
Spa House, 11/17 Worple Road
Wimbledon, London SW19 4JS

MARKETING SECRETARY HOLBORN

over £7,000

Calm, efficient secretary aged 23+ required for 3 managers of cosmopolitan, fast moving modern European HQ office in International Company. First class audio and shorthand, ability to organise and 'think' as well as good educational background complemented by sense of humour and team spirit. Think you've got it? Please phone or write to:

Mrs J. Francis

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YOUNG SECRETARY For Chairman's Office

£7,000 + Bonus + Free Lunches

The Chairman, and his Assistant, of the American Institute for Foreign Study, the educational travel organisation, need a secretary. The ideal applicant will be aged 20+ with speeds of 100/60 wpm and a knowledge of French. Experience of word processors an advantage but not essential since training will be given. Other benefits include 4 weeks holiday, free medical insurance and non-contributory pension scheme.

Please write to:-

CATHERINE LYNCH
AIFS, 37 Queens Gate, London, SW7

INVESTMENT MANAGEMENT SECRETARY/ASSISTANT

Investment management needs a secretary to organise office. You must be numerate, painstakingly accurate, able to work under pressure and keen to learn about investment management. There is lots of scope for someone who is bright and full of initiative.

Starting salary £7,000 + profit sharing

Please send CV to:

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£7,000

Working for the General Manager of this company you will need the tact and diplomacy to get on well with clients and at all times within the company. A successful and efficient PA is highly necessary. There is scope for advancement and typing but you will need doing your own correspondence. Modern office, very good benefits, including generous lunch allowance. Age preferred 25-40. Phone 01-495 0052 - 495 8087

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Seeks capable, ambitious Secretary/PA with sense of humour, who does not watch the clock. Age 30-40 to help develop interesting new industry. Excellent shorthand/typing and first rate bookkeeping experience. Salary c. £9,000.

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and MEMORIALS
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THE TIMES
40, Abchurch Lane, London EC4N 3DF
or by telephone
01-573 3333
Announcements can be received by telephone between 9.00 am and 5.00 pm on Saturday and Sunday, and on the following day between 9.00 am and 5.00 pm. For further details, see Social Page 25 a line.
Court and Social Page announcements can not be accepted by telephone.

Love the LORD your God, obey him and hold fast to him for he is life for you!
Deuteronomy 10:20 (N.E.B.)

BIRTHS

ATTHAGE - On July 23rd, to Caroline and Simon a daughter, Holly Victoria.
BIRD - On July 23rd, to Christopher and Julie a daughter, Lucy and Tom.
BUCKLEY - On July 23rd, to Harriet and David a daughter, Emily.
CHICKLOW - On July 23rd, to David and Anne a daughter, Emily.
CHICKLOW - On July 23rd, to David and Anne a daughter, Emily.
CHICKLOW - On July 23rd, to David and Anne a daughter, Emily.

MARRIAGES

WOOLCOTT - On July 23rd, 1983, at St. Paul's Church, London, the marriage of Mr and Mrs W. Woolcott, of London, to Mr and Mrs W. Woolcott, of London.

DEATHS

ADAMS - On July 24, Elizabeth Rosemary, peacefully at St. Paul's Church, London, the wife of Mr and Mrs W. Adams, of London.

DEATHS

ASHLEY-PRICE - On July 23rd, 1983, at St. Paul's Church, London, the wife of Mr and Mrs W. Ashley-Price, of London.

DEATHS

BURNS - On July 23rd, 1983, at St. Paul's Church, London, the wife of Mr and Mrs W. Burns, of London.

DEATHS

FELDMAN - On July 23rd, 1983, at St. Paul's Church, London, the wife of Mr and Mrs W. Feldman, of London.

DEATHS

HARRISON - On July 23rd, 1983, at St. Paul's Church, London, the wife of Mr and Mrs W. Harrison, of London.

DEATHS

KENNEDY - On July 23rd, 1983, at St. Paul's Church, London, the wife of Mr and Mrs W. Kennedy, of London.

DEATHS

MARRIS - On July 23rd, 1983, at St. Paul's Church, London, the wife of Mr and Mrs W. Marris, of London.

DEATHS

NEWMAN - On July 23rd, 1983, at St. Paul's Church, London, the wife of Mr and Mrs W. Newman, of London.

DEATHS

PERCIVAL - On July 23rd, 1983, at St. Paul's Church, London, the wife of Mr and Mrs W. Percival, of London.

DEATHS

RASCH - On July 23rd, 1983, at St. Paul's Church, London, the wife of Mr and Mrs W. Rasch, of London.

DEATHS

REMBERTSON - On July 23rd, 1983, at St. Paul's Church, London, the wife of Mr and Mrs W. Rembertson, of London.

DEATHS

ROSS - On July 23rd, 1983, at St. Paul's Church, London, the wife of Mr and Mrs W. Ross, of London.

DEATHS

TROTT - On July 23rd, 1983, at St. Paul's Church, London, the wife of Mr and Mrs W. Trott, of London.

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Also available last boat on Lefkada cruise 1 Aug & Sardinia cruise 6 Aug. 1 'Single' only 25.00. 2 'Couples' only 30.00. 3 'Couples' only 35.00. 4 'Couples' only 40.00. 5 'Couples' only 45.00. 6 'Couples' only 50.00. 7 'Couples' only 55.00. 8 'Couples' only 60.00. 9 'Couples' only 65.00. 10 'Couples' only 70.00. 11 'Couples' only 75.00. 12 'Couples' only 80.00. 13 'Couples' only 85.00. 14 'Couples' only 90.00. 15 'Couples' only 95.00. 16 'Couples' only 100.00. 17 'Couples' only 105.00. 18 'Couples' only 110.00. 19 'Couples' only 115.00. 20 'Couples' only 120.00. 21 'Couples' only 125.00. 22 'Couples' only 130.00. 23 'Couples' only 135.00. 24 'Couples' only 140.00. 25 'Couples' only 145.00. 26 'Couples' only 150.00. 27 'Couples' only 155.00. 28 'Couples' only 160.00. 29 'Couples' only 165.00. 30 'Couples' only 170.00. 31 'Couples' only 175.00. 32 'Couples' only 180.00. 33 'Couples' only 185.00. 34 'Couples' only 190.00. 35 'Couples' only 195.00. 36 'Couples' only 200.00. 37 'Couples' 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Full steam ahead: The King George V passing Chester racecourse yesterday en route to Shrewsbury (Photograph: John Voos).

All aboard for one of the world's seven great railway journeys

One of the "great railway journeys of the world" is coming to Britain, and yesterday 77 VIPs were given a foretaste of it. The full round-Britain trip, taking 16 days and passing through some of the finest scenery in Scotland, starts next May. It will cost a mere £1,425.

It took a shipping line. P&O to revive railway travel in the grand manner, and the preview trip from Euston to Chester and back boasted a line of shining Pullman coaches 30 years old, belonging to the Steam Locomotive Operators Association. For part of the journey, between Chester and Shrewsbury, they were pulled by the former Great Western Railway steam locomotive, King George V.

The regular trips will be hauled by a retooled British Rail diesel locomotive, though for one of the most dramatic scenic stretches, from Inverness to the Kyle of Lochalsh, the Pullmans will be headed by a steam locomotive on the old Dingwall and Skye Ferry Railway.

Yesterday Mr Michael Montague,

the chairman of the English Tourist Board, welcomed the innovation. "I am enthusiastic about these tours," he said. "They will revive the age-old leisurely rail travel and show to advantage our cities and countryside. According to P&O the last round-Britain train was the Northern Belle which was cancelled on the outbreak of war in 1939."



The itinerary is certainly unburied: there are scheduled stays at York (overnight), Edinburgh (three nights), Skye (overnight), Glenageary (three nights), Windermere (two nights) and Chester (overnight). The trip is one of seven in a "Great Journeys of the World" series planned by P & O. Others include

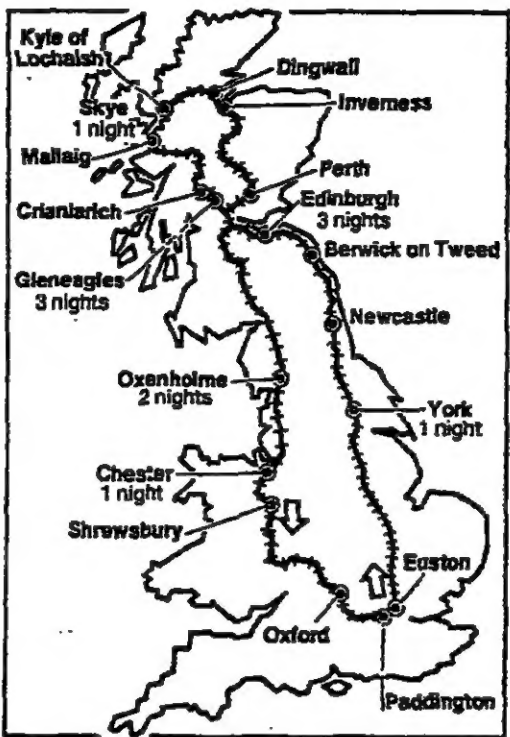
The Istanbul Train, the original Orient Express route to Varna; the Cape to Cairo Express; the Raj Express, north to south through India; a trip through the Gobi desert to China and another through Asia Minor to Egypt.

So far 2,000 seats are scheduled, over the seven trips, and already 1,200 places have been sold. Mr Andrew Cochran, the chief executive of P & O Holidays, predicted that most of the train's clients would be from abroad.

Hard-up rail enthusiasts might care to note that the £1,425 round-Britain journey can actually be achieved for £100, travel only, via a second class Rail Rover ticket permitting unlimited travel through Britain for one week. A first class ticket costs £50 more.

A similar ticket for two weeks costs £160 for second class and £230 for first class. Children aged five to 16 travel half price.

The rover tickets cover basic travel between all BR stations, Sealink shipping services to and from the Isle



of Wight, Lake Windermere, and Tilbury to Gravesend, and sailings on the Firth of Clyde

Outraged citizens save pups of war

From Christopher Thomas Washington

Rarely does all the ominous talk of war in Central America or elsewhere cause the Pentagon switchboard to be inundated by fearful and outraged citizens.

Yesterday it happened, but not because of war. It was because the Washington Post revealed that the Department of Defence was going to shoot dogs with high-powered weapons so that scientists could study their wounds. Many of the callers were children.

Such was the wrath of the nation that Mr Caspar Weinberger, Secretary of Defence, quickly issued a succinct instruction that "no dogs will be shot for medical experimentation or training."

The plan was to shoot scores of dogs and other animals at a newly built \$70,000 (£46,000) establishment in Washington named ominously and officially the Wound Laboratory.

The Wound Laboratory said it wanted to shoot dogs in order to train aspiring doctors for battlefield medicine and to research better ways of treating wounds in battles.

Trade surplus soothes debt fears

Continued from page 1

sluggish while economic recovery at home has sucked in increasing quantities of imports, including extra consumer goods to meet booming demand, and raw materials to fuel higher domestic production.

In the first half of 1983 Britain's deficit on visible trade widened to more than £1,000m. A surplus of £3,200m on oil trade could not cover a record £4,240m deficit on non-oil trade. Much of the deterioration is directly attributable to manufacturing where imports now exceed exports for the first time since the Industrial Revolution.

The Treasury's unpublished summer forecast is thought to predict a small deficit on current account this year, compared with a surplus of £4,000m in 1982. But the June figures suggest this could be unduly pessimistic.

The Trade Department said yesterday that while the underlying volume of non-oil exports had changed little since the end of last year, import volume seemed to have levelled off

Frank Johnson in the Commons

Changing the tune to the Latin beat

A crowded day. With only three more full parliamentary days to go until the long recess, there was much business to be transacted.

Labour members protested about the deteriorating situation in Central America. Conservative members protested about the deteriorating situation in Central America. The latter protests took place after Mr Tom King, the Minister of Transport - to the acclaim of the protesters - seized control of London Transport from Mr Kenneth Livingstone's Greater London Council. Londoners heard of the coup in the customary way: A sudden broadcast from the dispatch box from Mr King.

The broadcast contained regime: "The present system has served the travelling public and the transport operators badly. Since 1907 costs on London Transport have risen way beyond inflation; public subsidy has risen thirteenfold and fares have doubled in real terms."

There was the usual assurance that the coup had widespread support. "Last year the all-party transport select committee unanimously recommended that the improvement of transport facilities in London should be regarded as a matter of national priority."

There was the inevitable cult of personality. "I shall myself establish new liaison arrangements between British Rail and London Regional Transport." Finally, there was the appeal to the capital to remain calm: "These new arrangements are designed to improve efficiency and to get a better deal for the London traveller."

The secessionist coup was opposed by forces on the Labour benches loyal to the mystical concept of a Greater London.

Mr Ronald Leighton, the left-wing member for Newham North-east, claimed to speak in the name of the people: "The capital will resent the minister arrogating to himself such wide and dictatorial powers and eliminating any democratic participation by ordinary Londoners."

The phrase "ordinary Londoners" being Mr Leighton's way of describing the GLC. But the secessionist leader, Mr King, was assured by London Tory members of the capital's gratitude and

loyalty. He left the dispatch box in triumph mood. Earlier, there was the first major escalation in the Central American conflict: a point of order by Mr David Winnick.

Since 1979 he has been the Labour member for Walsall North. He was out of the House between 1970 and 1979. But from 1966 until 1970 he sat for Croydon South. In those years he would constantly rise, under standing orders No 9, to demand an emergency debate on American aggression in Central America, only nowadays the procedure for doing so comes, for some complex reason, under standing order No 10, under having been a great inflation since the 1960s.

Mr Winnick's demands, under standing order No 9, for an emergency debate on Vietnam were part of our youth for those of us starting out in the Commons gallery in the 1960s.

The reference books say that he is 50. Yet like so many 1960s figures now reaching ages undreamt of in that era of youth, Mr Leighton, for example, he looks scarcely different. What matters is it always was, "Increasing military involvement by the United States... so-called military advisers... British Government echoing American President."

Earlier, with Mr David Steel still a banned person at Etonbridge Bridge, there was a power struggle between Mr Alan Beith, the Liberal chief, and Mr Simon Hughes, the hammer of Mr Peter Tatchell. At Prime Minister's question time, Mr Beith commented on the fact that Mrs Thatcher had that day attended a service in honour of William Wilberforce.

He asked her if, while there, she reflected on the need to oppose oppression. The upshot of her reply was that she had. Later, Mr Hughes began a question with: "In view of the thanksgiving service earlier today for William Wilberforce and the passage by a Liberal government of the abolition of slavery."

Graded beyond endurance by such Liberalism, the Conservative Mr Peter Tappin later spluttered: "Might it not be worth recalling that William Wilberforce was a High Tory." Mrs Thatcher agreed, even though she has not yet abolished slavery among her ministerial colleagues.

THE TIMES INFORMATION SERVICE

Today's events

Royal engagements

The Queen and The Duke of Edinburgh give a garden party at Buckingham Palace; the Prince and Princess of Wales are also present, 4 to 6.

The Duke of Gloucester presents awards to Australian Science Scholars, Royal Institution, Albemarle Street, London, 6.45.

The Duchess of Gloucester, Patron of the National Association for Gifted Children, attends a

New exhibitions

Private Views: self-portraits and portraits selected by Anthony Rae, Kemsley Library Gallery, Guildford Road, Banstead, Mon to Wed 9.30 to 5, Tues and Sat 9.30 to 5, Fri 9.30 to 5, closed Sun; (until Aug 20).

Tomorrow's Technology Today, Design Centre, Vincent Street, Glasgow, Mon to Fri 9.30 to 5, Sat 9.30 to 5, (until Sept 10).

Landscapes in Britain 1850-1950, Mappin Art Gallery, Weston Park, Sheffield, Mon to Sat 10 to 5, Sun 2 to 5, (until Aug 28).

Lawrence Gowing Retrospective exhibition, Museum and Art Gallery, Plymouth, Mon to Fri 10 to 6, Sat 10 to 5, closed Sun; (until Aug 7).

Children's art exhibition, Wilshire Museum, Long Street, Devon, Tues to Sat 11 to 1 and 2 to 5, closed Sun and Mon; (until Aug 20).

Prints by Norman Stevens, Festival Gallery, Pierpoint Place, Bath, Tues to Sat 11 to 5, closed Sun and Mon; (until Aug 13).

Work by Noel Leaver, Towneley Hall Art Gallery and Museum, Burnley, Mon to Fri 10 to 5.30, Sun 12 to 5, closed Sat; (until Oct 2).

Music

Organ recital by Andrew Dean, St Mary's Cathedral, Edinburgh, 8.

Organ recital by Stephen Clibury, Norwich Cathedral, 8.

Concert by Cardiff Festival Orchestra, St David's Hall, Cardiff, 7.

Organ recital by R. A. Megraw, First Presbyterian Church, Rosemary Street, Belfast, 1.10.

Organ recital by Paul Brough, Hereford Cathedral, 1.15.

Recital by Henry Herford (baritone), and Robin Bowman (piano), St Mary's Centre, Chester, 1.10.

Organ recital by Mark Burgess, Rye Parish Church, Isle of Wight, 8.

Piano recital by Philip Mead, St Edward's Church, Bedford, 1.10.

Thai classical music and dance performance by group from Srinakharinwirot University, Bangkok, St Nicholas Chapel, King's Lynn, 8.

Concert by Alberti String Quartet, Jesus College Chapel, Cambridge, 8.

Organ recital by James O'Donnell, Robinson College, Cambridge, 1.30.

Talks, lectures

Margaret Drabble: Landscapes and Literature, Mappin Art Gallery, Weston Park, Sheffield, 7.15.

General

Summer fête in aid of Save the Children Fund, De La Warr Pavilion, Bexhill-on-Sea, Sussex, from 10.30.

Anniversaries

Birth: Thomas Campbell, poet, Glasgow, 1777; Sir George Biddell Airy, astronomer royal 1835-81; Alaric, Northumbrian, 1801; Giuseppe Carducci, poet, Nobel laureate 1906, Valsugli, Italy, 1835; Enrique Granados, Lirio, Spain, 1867; Edouard Bellet, La Celle-Saint-Cloud, France, 1870; Deaths: John Dalton, chemist and physicist, Manchester, 1844; Ferruccio Busoni, Empoli, Italy, 1924. The first Atlantic cable laid by the Great Eastern, 1866.

Parliament today

Commons (2.30): Motions on social security benefits and pensioners' lump sum payments.

Lords (2.30): Tributes to Sir Peter Henderson, Clerk of the Parliaments and declaration of Mr John Seamy as Clerk of the Parliaments.

Motions on social security benefits.

New books - hardbacks

The Literary Editor's selection of interesting books published this week: A Cold Eye, the modern Irish writers, by Hugh Kenner (Allen Lane, £14.95). All the Queen's Men, Power and Politics in Mary Stewart's Scotland, by Gordon Jackson (Penguin, £10.95). Catch a Fire, the life of Bob Marley, by Timothy White (Ebury, £9.95). French and German Germany, by Richard Cobb (University of New England, £10.95). Mosquitoes, since 1971, conduct and performance, by Maximilian Hall (Macmillan, £8.95). Pleasures and Terrors: Aaron Stokard, by Carl Chazanoff (Hutchinson, £20). Scotland, a new study, by Chaimson M. Clapperton (David & Charles, £15). The Jazz Tradition, by Martin Williams (Oxford, £14.95). Victorian & Edwardian Cookbooks from old photographs, by David Viner (Batsford, £7.95). Wales in Verse, edited and with an introduction by Dannie Abse (Secker & Warburg, £5.95).

The papers

Commenting on US policy in central America, the Daily Mirror says: "It used to be called gunboat diplomacy, with President Reagan it is more like cowboy diplomacy... like the plot of a poor 'B' movie". The Daily Star blames Government economic policies for rising in gas prices at a time when British Gas is making huge profits and almost a million people are having difficulty paying their bills. If gas is profitable, the customer benefit, the paper says.

Alfresco drinking

The following is a selection of recommended London pubs with gardens, patios and terraces: Canonbury Tavern, 21 Canonbury Street, NW3; Founders Arms, Bankside, SE1; Freemasons Arms, Downshire Hill, NW3; Green Man, Wildcroft Road, SW15; Old Ship, Hammersmith, W6; Old Ship, Old Windmill, Clapham Common, South Side, SW4; Prince Albert, Princess Road, NW1; Prospect of Whiffy, Wapping Wall, E1; Rose and Crown, Whitechapel, E1; St. James, 197 Kings Road, NW3; Spinnakers, Spinnakers Road, NW3; Swan, cosmo Passage, Southampton row, W1; White Swan, riverside, Twickenham, Middlesex. PH5

The pound

	Bank	Bank
Australia \$	1.60	1.72
Austria Sch	25.90	27.35
Belgium Fr	32.00	32.00
Canada \$	1.33	1.35
Denmark Kr	14.78	14.88
Finland Mkk	8.82	8.82
France Fr	12.24	11.74
Germany DM	4.10	3.90
Greece Dr	135.50	126.50
Hong Kong \$	11.37	10.72
Ireland Pst	1.29	1.23
Italy Lira	2420.00	2300.00
Japan Yen	385.00	365.00
Portugal Esc	186.00	176.00
South Africa Rd	2.82	2.57
Spain Pta	228.00	217.00
Sweden Kr	12.20	11.60
Switzerland Fr	3.33	3.16
USA \$	1.56	1.51
Yugoslavia Dnr	143.00	136.00

For small denominations bank notes only, at specified by Barclays Bank International Ltd. Retail prices apply to travellers' cheques and other foreign currency business.

London: The FT Index closed up 8.0 at 708.9

Roads

London and South-east: A33: Roadworks on Winchester bypass S of A31 junction: 30 minute delays. Congestion likely on Constitution Hill. The Mall and area around Buckingham Palace because of garden party this afternoon. A355: Farnham Road, Slough, closed northbound; diversions. Wales and West: A483: Roadworks and temporary lights at Ammanford, Dyfed, long delays. M5: Lane closures between junctions 2 (M50 junction) and 9 (Ashchurch). Midlands and East Angles: M61: Northbound early dispersal closed at junction 2 (M69 and Coventry East). A45: Lane closures on Orwell Bridge, Ipswich bypass, Suffolk. A45: Roadworks on Nene Valley Way at junction of Bedford Road roundabout, Northampton. North: A66: Roadworks and temporary lights at Bowes, Co. Durham. M6: Lane closures between junctions 25 (A49 Wigan) and 27 (A5209, Wigan/Stanfield), Greater Manchester. Scotland: A725: Lane closures at Boghrie, Strathclyde. A9: Single lane traffic with temporary lights S of Auchtermuchty, Tayside.

Stamp booklets

Three new stamp booklets in the series on the history of farm animals, railway engines and postal history, are available from today from philatelic counters. They may also be obtained from the British Philatelic Bureau, 20 Brandon Street, Edinburgh EH3 5TT, and will be on sale at post offices as stocks of current booklets are exhausted.

Pollen forecast

	Pollen	Peak
Aberdeen	high	3 to 6 pm
Belfast	high	3 to 6 pm
Birmingham	high	3 to 6 pm
Bristol	high	3 to 6 pm
Cardiff	high	3 to 6 pm
Edinburgh	high	3 to 6 pm
Exeter	high	3 to 6 pm
Glasgow	high	3 to 6 pm
Leeds	high	3 to 6 pm
Liverpool	high	3 to 6 pm
Manchester	high	3 to 6 pm
Newcastle	high	3 to 6 pm
Nottingham	high	3 to 6 pm
Sheffield	high	3 to 6 pm
Southampton	high	3 to 6 pm
Swansea	high	3 to 6 pm
Wolverhampton	high	3 to 6 pm
Worcester	high	3 to 6 pm
Wrexham	high	3 to 6 pm
York	high	3 to 6 pm

Issued by National Pollen and Hay Fever Bureau

Weather forecast

A weak cold front will move SE across E and S Scotland and N England, while a ridge of high pressure will extend to W Scotland and Northern Ireland.

6 am to midnight

London, SE, central S, E England, East Angles, E Midlands, Channel Islands: Misty, some fog patches at first, sunny intervals, and isolated thundery showers developing; wind N, moderate; max temp 18 to 21C (65 to 70F).

SW, NW, Eire, Wales: Rather cloudy with some drizzle in places, some bright intervals later; wind N, moderate; max temp 18 to 21C (65 to 70F).

Like District, Isle of Man, Borders, Edinburgh, Dundee, Aberdeen, SW Scotland, Glasgow, central Highlands, Moray Firth: Cloudy with some light rain at times, becoming brighter with sunny intervals; wind N, moderate to fresh; max temp 18 to 21C (65 to 70F).

NE, NW, Scotland, Argyll, Orkney, Shetland, Northern Ireland: Dry with sunny intervals; wind NW, moderate, increasing fresh later; max temp 18 to 21C (65 to 70F).

Outlook for tomorrow and Friday: Dry with sunny intervals, some rain in N generally warm.

SEA PASSAGES: S. North Sea, Strait of Dover: Wind N, light, increasing to moderate; sea, smooth, becoming light or moderate.

English Channel (E), Wind N, light or moderate; sea, light to choppy.

Irish Sea: Wind N, moderate or fresh; sea, light to choppy.

Atlantic: Wind N, moderate or fresh; sea, light to choppy.

Summers: Sun rises: 5.16am; Sun sets: 8.57pm; Moon rises: 7.26am; Moon sets: 10.32pm; Last quarter: August 2.

Lighting-up time

London: 8.27 pm to 8.47 am; Edinburgh: 8.27 pm to 8.47 am; Manchester: 8.45 pm to 8.47 am; Newcastle: 8.45 pm to 8.47 am; Perth: 8.45 pm to 8.47 am.

Yesterday

Temperatures at midday yesterday: a, cloud; l, light; h, heavy; w, wind.

London: 17.8C; Glasgow: 17.2C; Manchester: 17.5C; Newcastle: 17.8C; Perth: 17.5C; Cardiff: 17.2C; Belfast: 17.5C; Exeter: 17.2C; Plymouth: 17.5C; Southampton: 17.2C; Swansea: 17.5C; Wrexham: 17.2C; York: 17.5C; Nottingham: 17.2C; Leicester: 17.5C; Derby: 17.2C; Lincoln: 17.5C; Northampton: 17.2C; Peterborough: 17.5C; Ipswich: 17.2C; Norwich: 17.5C; London: 17.2C; Brighton: 17.5C; Southampton: 17.2C; Exeter: 17.5C; Plymouth: 17.2C; Swansea: 17.5C; Wrexham: 17.2C; York: 17.5C; Nottingham: 17.2C; Leicester: 17.5C; Derby: 17.2C; Lincoln: 17.5C; Northampton: 17.2C; Peterborough: 17.5C; Ipswich: 17.2C; Norwich: 17.5C; London: 17.2C; Brighton: 17.5C; Southampton: 17.2C; Exeter: 17.5C; Plymouth: 17.2C; Swansea: 17.5C; Wrexham: 17.2C; York: 17.5C; Nottingham: 17.2C; Leicester: 17.5C; Derby: 17.2C; Lincoln: 17.5C; Northampton: 17.2C; Peterborough: 17.5C; Ipswich: 17.2C; Norwich: 17.5C; London: 17.2C; Brighton: 17.5C; Southampton: 17.2C; Exeter: 17.5C; Plymouth: 17.2C; Swansea: 17.5C; Wrexham: 17.2C; York: 17.5C; Nottingham: 17.2C; Leicester: 17.5C; Derby: 17.2C; Lincoln: 17.5C; Northampton: 17.2C; Peterborough: 17.5C; Ipswich: 17.2C; Norwich: 17.5C; London: 17.2C; Brighton: 17.5C; Southampton: 17.2C; Exeter: 17.5C; Plymouth: 17.2C; Swansea: 17.5C; Wrexham: 17.2C; York: 17.5C; Nottingham: 17.2C; Leicester: 17.5C; Derby: 17.2C; Lincoln: 17.5C; Northampton: 17.2C; Peterborough: 17.5C; Ipswich: 17.2C; Norwich: 17.5C; London: 17.2C; Brighton: 17.5C; Southampton: 17.2C; Exeter: 17.5C; Plymouth: 17.2C; Swansea: 17.5C; Wrexham: 17.2C; York: 17.5C; Nottingham: 17.2C; Leicester: 17.5C; Derby: 17.2C; Lincoln: 17.5C; Northampton: 17.2C; Peterborough: 17.5C; Ipswich: 17.2C; Norwich: 17.5C; London: 17.2C; Brighton: 17.5C; Southampton: 17.2C; Exeter: 17.5C; Plymouth: 17.2C; Swansea: 17.5C; Wrexham: 17.2C; York: 17.5C; Nottingham: 17.2C; Leicester: 17.5C; Derby: 17.2C; Lincoln: 17.5C; Northampton: 17.2C; Peterborough: 17.5C; Ipswich: 17.2C; Norwich: 17.5C; London: 17.2C; Brighton: 17.5C; Southampton: 17.2C; Exeter: 17.5C; Plymouth: 17.2C; Swansea: 17.5C; Wrexham: 17.2C; York: 17.5C; Nottingham: 17.2C; Leicester: 17.5C; Derby: 17.2C; Lincoln: 17.5C; Northampton: 17.2C; Peterborough: 17.5C; Ipswich: 17.2C; Norwich: 17.5C; London: 17.2C; Brighton: 17.5C; Southampton: 17.2C; Exeter: 17.5C; Plymouth: 17.2C; Swansea: 17.5C; Wrexham: 17.2C; York: 17.5C; Nottingham: 17.2C; Leicester: 17.5C; Derby: 17.2C; Lincoln: 17.5C; Northampton: 17.2C; Peterborough: 17.5C; Ipswich: 17.2C; Norwich: 17.5C; London: 17.2C; Brighton: 17.5C; Southampton: 17.2C; Exeter: 17.5C; Plymouth: 17.2C; Swansea: 17.5C; Wrexham: 17.2C; York: 17.5C; Nottingham: 17.2C; Leicester: 17.5C; Derby: 17.2C; Lincoln: 17.5C; Northampton: 17.2C; Peterborough: 17.5C; Ipswich: 17.2C; Norwich: 17.5C; London: 17.2C; Brighton: 17.5C; Southampton: 17.2C; Exeter: 17.5C; Plymouth: 17.2C; Swansea: 17.5C; Wrexham: 17.2C; York: 17.5C; Nottingham: 17.2C; Leicester: 17.5C; Derby: 17.2C; Lincoln: 17.5C; Northampton: 17.2C; Peterborough: 17.5C; Ipswich: 17.2C; Norwich: 17.5C; London: 17.2C; Brighton: 17.5C; Southampton: 17.2C; Exeter: 17.5C; Plymouth: 17.2C; Swansea: 17.5C; Wrexham: 17.2C; York: 17.5C; Nottingham: 17.2C; Leicester: 17.5C; Derby: 17.2C; Lincoln: 17.5C; Northampton: 17.2C; Peterborough: 17.5C; Ipswich: 17.2C; Norwich: 17.5C; London: 17.2C; Brighton: 17.5C; Southampton: 17.2C; Exeter: 17.5C; Plymouth: 17.2C; Swansea: 17.5C; Wrexham: 17.2C; York: 17.5C; Nottingham: 17.2C; Leicester: 17.5C; Derby: 17.2C; Lincoln: 17.5C; Northampton: 17.2C; Peterborough: 17.5C; Ipswich: 17.2C; Norwich: 17.5C; London: 17.2C; Brighton: 17.5C; Southampton: 17.2C; Exeter: 17.5C; Plymouth: 17.2C; Swansea: 17.5C; Wrexham: 17.2C; York: